FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

1 NOVEMBER 1984

Condolences on Gandhi Assassination

Among the flood of condolences to India on the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, a message from Pakistani President Ziaul Haq to Indian President Zail Singh, cited by Karachi radio, expressed deep grief and condemned the brutal act of violence against a "beloved leader of the Indian people" who played an important role in developing good-neighbor relations between the two countries. President Zia also expressed his sympathy in telephone conversations with the Indian president and with new Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, the radio disclosed, adding that the Pakistani Cabinet has decreed a 3-day mourning period.

Condolences from Iranian President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i to the Indian president, described by IRNA, cited Mrs Gandhi's valuable continuation of the international polices of her father, Jawaharlal Nehru. In addition, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi Khamene'i expressed "regrets" over Mrs Gandhi's death, according to Tehran radio.

As for the DRA, the "unmanly and cowardly deed" which was "undoubtedly" organized by India's "sworn enemies," was condemned in a message from President Babrak Karmal and Prime Minister Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand to President Singh, broadcast by Kabul radio.

OPEC

At the conclusion of its emergency session in Geneva, OPEC announced the allocation of temporary cuts of 1.5 million barrels a day in crude oil production, bringing the ceiling down to 16 million barrels a day to defend the market price of $29 per barrel, OPECNA reported. Saudi Arabia will make the largest reduction in production. On the other hand, both Nigeria and Iraq were excluded from the lower quotas, KUNA noted, and INA cited the Iraqi oil minister's explanation that his country cannot reduce production because output is already below its quota. In spite of Iran's previous refusal to accept a cut, Tehran radio announced that "in order to maintain present oil prices" Iran will cut its production by 4 percent.

Lebanon

Israeli-Lebanese military negotiations on an IDF withdrawal from southern Lebanon and on security arrangements for the area will begin on 5 November, according to an official UN announcement cited by Jerusalem radio. Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin told visiting U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy that Israel will demand that conclusions be reached rapidly in the talks without concessions on matters that are important to it, the radio reported.

Meanwhile, Voice of Lebanon radio reported Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's arrival in Bikfayya on 1 November for talks with President Amin al-Jumayyil. Syria has given "tacit" approval for the Israeli-Lebanese talks, according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon, and Khaddam's visit is intended to solve the problem of the Lebanese Army's deployment on the southern coastal road by persuading the Lebanese parties concerned to allow the Army to take control of the road after Israel's withdrawal. Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt had earlier told the *JORDAN TIMES* that he will not agree to the Army's deployment along the Beirut-Sidon road until the conditions have been discussed in Damascus. He emphasized that he is linking the Army's deployment on the road with the results of the political negotiations he is conducting with the Lebanese Government, according to the Voice of Lebanon. The Druze leader also stated that the Christian Lebanese Forces must leave the Sidon and Al-Kharrub areas after Israel's withdrawal, warning that fighting could otherwise resume there, the radio added.

Israel

U.S. Aid — The United States transferred $1.2 billion to Israel, the entire civilian aid grant for the next fiscal year, Jerusalem radio noted. Israeli officials told the radio that the grant will greatly alleviate the weakness in Israel's foreign currency reserves.

West Bank — The military authorities closed Bethlehem University for 4 days because of the recent riots there, Jerusalem radio reported.

UAE-PRC

The UAE and the PRC have decided to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level on the basis of their mutual desire to strengthen friendly relations and bilateral cooperation, according to a joint statement carried by WAKH.

Egypt

President Husni Mubarak reaffirmed his call for a PLO peace initiative during his speech at a dinner banquet given in his honor by FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl. In his remarks, broadcast by Cairo Radio, Mubarak said a Palestinian peace initiative would clarify the PLO's objectives, thereby preventing "extremist circles" from exploiting the existing situation to promote their ideas, which are based on the impossibility of peaceful coexistence between the Arabs and Israel. As for his talks with Kohl, Mubarak stated afterward that they had agreed on measures to increase bilateral cooperation in many fields, according to the radio. In related remarks reported by DPA, Kohl insisted that he did not discuss FRG-Egyptian arms cooperation with Mubarak and said that the question of an FRG financial guarantee for the supply of a German nuclear reactor to Egypt remains "open" pending further talks and clarification.

PLO

The PLO's Higher Military Council, at a meeting in Tunis chaired by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, called on all Palestinian forces to unify for convocation of the PNC in November, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. Meanwhile, the radio noted, PLO leaders Khalil al-Wazir and Salah Khalaf arrived in Algiers for a dialogue between Fatah and the Democratic Alliance.

Libya-Chad

Observers from France and Libya have arrived in Ndjamena and Bardai to monitor the French and Libyan military withdrawal from Chad, AFP reported. At the same time, JANA stated that the remaining "Libyan support" for GUNT has left Faya and Fada.

Iran

Foreign Relations — Commenting on Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's recent remarks on foreign relations, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed that Iran still intends to "export" the Islamic Revolution because it has a duty to convey the revolutionary message to other Muslims and to anyone who is disturbed by the powers currently ruling the world. However, Iran does not want to impose its revolution on others and seeks to persuade them rather than to use force, which is "not to our liking." Iran's adversaries in the world are the "bullying" governments and it has no quarrel with the "wronged" governments, he added in his remarks, which were reported by Tehran radio.

Kurdish Operations — As a result of the "successful operations of the forces of Islam" in Kordestan, over 10,000 members of rebel "minigroups" returned to the "embrace" of Islam between March and September 1984, according to an official statement carried by Tehran radio.

Noting that a large number of Kurdish Democratic Party members were among those who surrendered to the government forces, the statement warned other "deceived" Kurdish rebels to do likewise, rather than face a "futile death."

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PLO Reacts to Iranian Stand on Mediation

JN311809 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] A responsible source in the PLO has stated the following: Iranian television yesterday broadcast an Iranian Foreign Ministry statement expressing Iran's dissatisfaction and displeasure with the Palestinian circles' recent efforts to stop the damage being done by the Iraq-Iran war. Iran expressed hope that the PLO would halt its ongoing mediation efforts to stop the war.

The PLO would like reaffirm that it has played an important, well-known role in halting this war, both before and after the war. It has continued its efforts to stop the war in order to spare Muslim blood and to pool all Islamic efforts and resources for the battle of common destiny against the Zionist enemy, the main enemy threatening our Islamic and Arab nation with destruction and ruin, and for liberating Jerusalem and saving Al-Aqsa Mosque. The PLO, which still adheres to this basic conviction in all of its efforts, would like to affirm the following:

The PLO does not receive instructions on this subject from anyone. Its actions are prompted by its commitment to the Islamic Conference and its committees and decisions. The PLO is an active member of the Islamic Good Offices Committee stemming from the Islamic summit conference, which has been entrusted with continuing its good offices and efforts with all brothers and friends in order to stop the Iraq-Iran war and to curb its dangers, which are threatening everyone.

While explaining these facts, the PLO would like to affirm that, despite all the hardships it is facing, it will continue its various good offices and efforts in the service of the Islamic peoples' just causes. It will do this out of its awareness of its role and its major responsibility in preserving Islamic interests; in achieving Muslim unity; and in preventing further Islamic bloodshed, which only benefits the enemies of our nation, including Zionists, Americans and their collaborators, whose sole concern is the continuation of this war.

PNC Venue To Be Determined Soon

JN311715 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Palestinian functionaries and the Fatah Central Committee held a joint meeting in Tunis last night and decided to hold the PNC session at the end of next month. Our radio correspondent has learned that the venue of the session will be determined, depending on Algeria's final decision, within the next 2 days.

PLO Higher Military Council Meets in Tunis

JN311707 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] The Higher Military Council of the Palestinian revolution met in the Tunisian capital yesterday under the chairmanship of Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]. The council reviewed the various basic military affairs related to maintaining our military forces and enhancing their fighting capability. The council also discussed the situation in our occupied territory and in southern Lebanon, and expressed satisfaction with the military operations that our forces and masses in the occupied territory and southern Lebanon are carrying out with the cooperation of the Lebanese nationalist forces against the Zionist enemy and its invader forces. The council emphasized the need to redouble our efforts in this field.

The council also reviewed the political situation in the Palestinian arena, and unanimously affirmed the need to expedite the convocation of the PNC. It also supported the decisions issued by the meeting that Palestinian functionaries and popular organizations held in Tunis in the middle of this month. Furthermore, the council supported the decisions issued at the meeting held by the Fatah Central Committee yesterday, 29 October [as heard], with the Palestinian leaders of Fatah and other Palestinian organizations.

A spokesman for the Higher Military Council announced that the council, while aware of the seriousness of the phase and the enormity of the plot against our Palestinian people and legitimate leadership, calls on all Palestinian forces and functionaries to unify their efforts in order to convene the PNC before the end of November wherever the Executive Committee decides in light of its contacts with the parties concerned. This will enable our Palestinian people to continue their struggle march until all of their national objectives are achieved.

Al-Wazir, Khalaf Arrive in Algeria 30 Oct

JN311711 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Brothers Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, and Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], member of the Fatah Central Committee, arrived in Algiers last night to take part in the dialogue between Fatah and the Palestinian Democratic Alliance, and to attend Algeria's anniversary celebrations.

ICO Sends Condolences To India

LD312131 Riyadh SPA in English 1917 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Jeddah, Oct 31, SPA — Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Organisation of Islamic Conference has sent a cable of condolences to Indian President Zail Zingh on the sad demise of Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi. In a cable on behalf of the organisation, Chatti praised Mrs Gandhi's pioneering role in the international arena and her constant struggle to support the liberation of oppressed people world-wide. The secretary general also lauded Mrs Gandhi's dynamic role in the promotion of Non-Aligned Movement.

Further Reportage on OPEC Emergency Meeting

OPECNA Announces Production Cuts

LD311829 Vienna OPECNA in English 1600 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Geneva, Oct 31 (OPECNA) — At the conclusion of the 71st (extraordinary) meeting of the conference of OPEC here, the following press release was issued:

The members of OPEC met in Geneva, Switzerland, from 29 to 31 October 1984, in the capacity of a consultative meeting. It was then decided to convert this meeting into an extraordinary meeting of the conference.

The conference bade farewell to H.E. Kamal Hasan al-Maqhur, president of the 70th meeting of the conference, who had departed from his position as secretary of oil of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, in order to assume other assignments. The conference expressed its sincere appreciation to H.E. al-Maqhur for his efforts for the organization. The alternate president of the 70th meeting of the conference, H.E. Dr Subroto, minister of mines and energy of Indonesia and head of its delegation, was unanimously confirmed to preside over the current meeting. The conference unanimously elected as its alternate president H.E. Belkacem Nabi, minister of energy and petrochemical industries of Algeria and head of its delegation.

The conference reviewed with great concern the recent developments in the world oil market following the price cuts undertaken by Statoil of Norway and NBOC of the United Kingdom, as well as by member country Nigeria. The conference believes that the present oil price structure should be maintained and market stability restored as a means to secure healthy world energy balances and to stimulate world trade. Beneficiaries of such stability are not OPEC countries alone, but the international community at large, producers and consumers alike. The conference is, therefore, determined to defend the price structure of its marker crude (Arabian light, 34 degrees API, ex-Ra's Tanurah) at the level of 29 U.S. dollars per barrel and to consolidate market stability. For this purpose, the conference decided to cut as from 1st November 1984 and on a temporary basis, the global production ceiling of OPEC from 17.5 to 16 million b/d, a reduction of 1.5 million b/d, distributed as follows: Country/Reduction (mb/d)

Algeria/0.062
Ecuador/0.017
Gabon/0.013
Indonesia/0.111
Islamic Republic of Iran/0.100
Iraq/0.000
Kuwait/0.150
Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah/0.110
Nigeria/0.000
Qatar/0.020
United Arab Emirates/0.150
Venezuela/0.120
Saudi Arabia/0.647

Total/1.500

The conference also discussed the problem of price differentials and the relative values of all crudes in relation to the marker crude, Arabian light, and decided to form a ministerial committee chaired by H.E. Ahmad Zaki Yamani, minister of petroleum and mineral resources of Saudi Arabia, and composed of H.E. Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and mineral resources of the United Arab Emirates, and H.E. Fawzi A. Shakshuki, acting secretary of oil of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, in order to recommend to the conference, in its next meeting, the course of action to be taken in this respect.

The conference expressed its sincere appreciation to the Federal Government of Switzerland and to the republic and canton of Geneva for their warm hospitality and the excellent arrangements made for the meeting.

KUNA on Agreements Reached

LD010216 Kuwait KUNA in English 1838 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Geneva, Oct 31 (KUNA) — OPEC succeeded in reaching agreement Wednesday on sharing out among 11 of its 13 member countries a temporary production cut of 1.5 million barrels a day. The agreement, designed to stabilise the market and restore prices to official levels after the recent cuts by North Sea producers Norway and Britain and OPEC member Nigeria, was reached by oil ministers after a three-day emergency conference.

Both Nigeria and Iraq were excluded from lowering their output quotas — Nigeria because of its economic and debt crisis and Iraq because of its war situation. Saudi Arabia took on the burden of the reduction, with 647,000 b/d, followed by Kuwait and the UAE with 150,000 each.

Ministers said the cuts, giving a new OPEC production ceiling of 16 million b/d, were certain to push up prices next month as winter demand for OPEC oil in the northern hemisphere rose to at least 19 million b/d. "We are in reality reducing supply by no less than three million barrels a day for November," said Saudi Oil Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, predicting that OPEC's "very well calculated move" would restore prices by the end of next month or even before.

The cuts accepted by other countries and beginning on Thursday were as follows: Venezuela 120,000; Indonesia 111,000; Libya 110,000; Iran 100,000; Algeria 62,000; Qatar 20,000; Ecuador 17,000; Gabon 13,000.

The OPEC agreement for an overall production cut of almost 8.6 percent, was backed up by what the conference chairman Dr Subroto of Indonesia called an assurance from all the oil ministers to adhere strictly to the new quotas and OPEC prices.

Shaykh Yamani said it was "high time" that discounting in all its forms was abandoned. A number of member countries that had been overproducing, some by almost 50 percent, had assured the conference that they would definitely stop, he said. Shaykh Yamani conceded that the Saudi cut of 647,000 b/d, from its ceiling as swing producer of five million, would leave Saudi output at about current levels, but he believed the commitment

by other countries to stick to the new lower quotas would have the desired effect.

The Kuwaiti oil minister, Shaykh al-Khalifah al-Sabah, said the reductions in quotas were "more than sufficient to restore the market," but if necessary OPEC was ready to meet again to deal with the situation. "We are not interested in driving prices to uncontrollable levels, but we are serious and committed to restoring the prices to the official levels," he said. Kuwait had accepted a production cut of 14.5 percent — 150,000 b/d below its previous quota of 1.05.

Shaykh al-Sabah, who put Kuwait's current output at 10,000-15,000 b/d below the old quota, said he had given instructions for Kuwait to follow the new OPEC ceiling and the new quota "not only faithfully but blindly." All spot sales would be cut completely, and refinery runs reduced if necessary, although long-term customers would have their commitments with Kuwait honoured, he said.

The OPEC production cutbacks, the second forced on the group in 19 months, were followed by a token 30,000 b/d cut by Egypt and a supporting fall in output by Mexico.

The conference, in a closing statement, said the international community in general would benefit from market stability. "The present oil price structure should be maintained and market stability restored as a means to secure healthy world energy balances and to stimulate world trade," the statement said, expressing "great concern" at the result of the price cutting earlier this month.

Dr Subroto accused Norway and Britain of making their price cuts "not for purely economic reasons", and said they had wanted to "have their cake and eat it too."

Nigeria, which slashed up to two dollars a barrel off its price, would be allowed to keep its price at that level for the time being, but Dr Subroto said he was convinced that Nigeria would adjust the price. Shaykh al-Sabah said OPEC was sympathetic to Nigeria's position, but hoped Nigeria would not cut its price again without consulting the group first. He was sure the African producer would raise its price in one or two steps as soon as its share of the market increased.

Pressure on Norway, Britain and Nigeria would appear soon to raise their prices, he said. The Norwegian and British price cuts had not been required by the market situation, which was already moving perceptibly in an upward direction when the cuts were made. "Maybe the reduction of prices by Norway and Britain is a blessing in disguise, to shake OPEC into the same discipline" that OPEC had shown last year, he added.

The conference set up a three-member ministerial committee to deal with the urgent problem of price differentials between light and heavy crudes. It is intended that a solution to the problem, which has put intense pressure on the light crude producers, will be worked out at the December 19 Geneva conference. "There is a commitment by all members to look very seriously into this and to take measures to correct the situation," Shaykh al-Sabah said. Shaykh Yamani will head the committee, with the UAE and Libyan ministers.

OPEC Meeting Ends

LD311136 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1252 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Geneva, 31 Oct (KUNA) — OPEC ended an emergency meeting today here aimed at reaching an agreement on the reduction of oil production. The Kuwaiti oil minister, Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Adhbi al-Sabah and the Saudi Petroleum Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani announced that "a good agreement" has been reached. A spokesman for the OPEC General Secretariat said that the alternate chairman of OPEC and Indonesian Minister of Mining and Energy Dr Sobroto will hold a press conference shortly to announce the final results of the ministers decisions. The spokesman added that Shaykh Yamani will hold a press conference at 1300 GMT.

Oil Ministers View Results of OPEC Meeting

Yamani Warning on Discipline

LD311828 Kuwait KUNA in English 1715 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Geneva, Oct 31 (KUNA) — The Saudi Arabian oil minister, commenting on the result of the OPEC emergency conference, said that in reality OPEC was reducing oil supply "by no less than three million barrels a day (b/d)" for November. Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani said OPEC's share of the market in November would not be less than 19 million b/d and higher in December. "We think the reaction will be felt in the market the minute oil companies try to find a barrel and don't get it easily." The OPEC decision to cut the ceiling down to 16 million b/d was "a very well calculated move" in an abnormal situation. In an indication that Saudi Arabia was ready to take all necessary action to defend the 29 dollar reference price, Yamani said "we will make sure that the price of oil goes up to the official OPEC price."

Yamani said that Saudi Arabia was reducing production by 647,000 b/d, down from its maximum ceiling of five million b/d. But he said some countries in OPEC, which had been exceeding their quotas, some of them by almost 50 percent, had assured him they would bring their over-production to an end. He expected the effect of the OPEC decision to be felt probably in the second week of November, and spot prices to go back to official levels by the end of that month, if not before.

Commenting on the fact that neither Nigeria nor Iraq had been asked to lower their production quotas, Yamani said Nigeria had both a political and financial problem. He predicted that Nigeria would start to return to its official price of 30 dollars a barrel "hopefully very soon." Iraq, he said, had a limited capacity to export and was still at war with Iran. "They have to have some financial resources."

The Saudi oil minister, in a warning that OPEC members have to restore discipline to their ranks, said that it was high time that OPEC forgot about discounts in all forms. Barter deals, if they concealed discounts, "have to stop right now," he added.

Iran To Cut 4 Percent

LD311838 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Oct 84

[Excerpts] OPEC's emergency meeting ended its deliberations today after 3 days of discussions and exchanges of views.

According to our correspondent in Geneva, in order to maintain present oil prices, the Islamic Republic of Iran will cut its production by 100,000 barrels a day from its quota. According to this report, the petroleum minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, who is attending the meeting, told the OPEC ministers of the considerable reduction made in the past 3 months in Iran's oil production. The Iranian petroleum minister turned down the proposed equal percentage of Iran's quota [as heard]. Nigeria, the Iraqi regime, and Venezuela also expressed their problems and difficulties and did not accept the entire percentage [cut] demanded.

At the conclusion of the meeting, following a lengthy explanation by the petroleum minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the meeting accepted that Iran's quota should be reduced by 4 percent and Saudi Arabia's by 647,000 barrels.

Changes in price of crude were also among topics discussed in today's meeting, and the session decided to set up a committee comprising the oil ministers of Saudi Arabia, Libya, and the United Arab Emirates, to discuss suitable solutions and to report to the next OPEC ministerial meeting.

Our country's petroleum minister told our correspondent at the conclusion of OPEC's emergency session, that during the London conference, OPEC was faced with a fait accompli and did not put up any serious resistance. However, this time the organization proved that it will not surrender to foreign pressures and is ready to defend its integrity with sacrifices. This trend must be taken as a new policy in countering external pressures.

Iraq Output Below Quota

JN311901 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1820 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Geneva, 31 Oct (INA) — Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi has described the results of the OPEC emergency conference as constructive, once again proving OPEC solidarity in confronting pressure in order to restore stability to the world oil market. In a statement to INA in Geneva today, the minister said that the OPEC agreement on reducing production will contribute toward strengthening both the market position and OPEC's official price of $29 per barrel. The minister explained Iraq's nonparticipation in the reductions by saying that Iraq's current quota does not represent its real quota, and that Iraq accepted this quota because of its previous limited production power.

The minister noted that the OPEC countries understood Iraq's position during the conference, and did not ask it to participate with the other countries in reducing production, because its current production is not equal to its real quota. Iraq cannot reduce production unless its production is equal to its quota. The minister affirmed Iraq's growing production and export capacity, pointing out that Iraq has outproduced its previous limited quota.

On Nigeria's nonparticipation in reductions, the minister said that this is due to Nigeria's economic situation. He said that OPEC decided at its previous meeting to increase Nigeria's quota by 100,000 to 150,000 barrels per day.

On another level, the Saudi and Kuwaiti oil ministers Ahmad Zaki Yamani and 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Sabah said that OPEC will defend its new production ceiling in order to maintain prices. In remarks to reporters, they said that they expect the oil prices to increase to the official OPEC price of $29 per barrel.

Nigeria Committed to OPEC

AB311604 Lagos NAN in English 1100 GMT 31 Oct 84

[By Sani Sambo]

[Text] Geneva, Oct. 31 (NAN) — The OPEC conference in Geneva devoted yesterday morning's session to debate Nigeria's arguments on production cuts and several formulas for sharing of the new oil production ceiling reduced by 1.5 million barrels per day (BPD).

The president of OPEC, Dr Subroto of Indonesia told newsmen at the end of the session that progress had been made on the formulation of the sharing principle among its members and expressed optimism over the conferences approach to the issues before it.

Prof Tam David-West was reported to have put Nigeria's case before the closed-door meeting of the 13 oil producers. He gave an assurance of Nigeria's commitment to OPEC and her resolve to abide by the organisations agreements. The minister, however, cautioned his counterparts on the sharing of the cuts and its possible consequences, particularly on Nigeria, the Western Europe correspondent of the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports.

A Nigerian delegate had earlier told NAN that although an agreement had been reached on the 1.5 million barrels per day reduction, Nigeria would resist it if other members did not take into consideration Nigeria's problems which would multiply with any cuts.

GCC Oil Ministers To Meet in Geneva

LD311257 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1223 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Geneva, 31 Oct (KUNA) — Official Gulf petroleum sources today here said that the oil ministers of the six GCC member states will meet here tomorrow. The sources informed KUNA that the Bahraini and Omani oil ministers will arrive here tonight to join the Kuwaiti, Saudi, UAE and Qatari oil ministers who are now taking part in an OPEC consultative meeting. The sources said that the ministers will draw up a joint plan concerning means of maintaining the stability of the petroleum market in the coming stage which will witness a reduction in OPEC's production ceiling to 16 million barrels per day.

BAHRAIN

Bahraini Officials Deplore Gandhi Assassination

GF311910 Manama WAKH in English 1600 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Manama, Oct 21, (WAKH) — Bahrain expressed its deep sorrow over the killing of Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi.

In a cable of condolence to Indian President Zail Singh, the Amir of Bahrain His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah hoped that the Indian people would overcome this ordeal courageously and resolutely.

The amir of Bahrain also eulogized the role played by the late Mrs Gandhi in serving the Non-aligned Movement and world peace and the development her country witnessed during her premiership.

Bahrain Prime Minister His Excellency Shaykh Khalifah Ibn Salman Al Khalifah also expressed his sorrow over the killing of Mrs Gandhi describing her death as a big loss of a great politician who has done her utmost for the progress of her country and the service of world peace.

Bahraini Crown Prince and Commander in Chief of the Bahrain Defence Force His Excellency Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah deplored the killing of Mrs Gandhi and considered her death as a great loss for the Non-Aligned Movement and world peace.

GCC's Bisharah Meets With Foreign Minister

GF311159 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0850 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Manama, 31 Oct (WAKH) — Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah met in Manama today with GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah, who is currently visiting Manama.

The topics listed on the agenda of the GCC ministerial council's meeting, which will be held in Kuwait on 20 November, were discussed during the meeting. The ministerial council will prepare for the fifth session of the GCC Supreme Council which will open in Kuwait on 27 November.

Mr 'Abdallah Bisharah arrived in Manama yesterday evening within the context of his tour of the GCC countries.

New Saudi Envoy Presents Credentials 31 Oct

GF010609 Manama WAKH in English 1540 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Manama, 31 Oct (WAKH) — Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah received Dr Ghazi 'Abd al-Rahman al-Qusaybi's credentials as the new Saudi Ambassador to Bahrain. Al-Qusaybi replaces Ibrahim al-Qadi who has been designated the new Saudi ambassador to the Scandinavian countries.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd Cables Indian President on Gandhi's Death

LD311529 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] His Highness King Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz sent a cable this afternoon to Indian President Zail Singh on the occasion of the death of Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi, who died as the result of an assault. His highness the king expressed in his cable his profound regrets, and his hope that the Indian president and the Indian people will be saved from all adversity.

King Receives Message From Lebanon's Al-Jumayyil

LD311518 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1155 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Al-Madinah, 31 Oct (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received a message from Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil. His majesty received the message during an audience granted to the Lebanese ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Zafir al-Hasan today at the royal court in Medina.

UAE

Diplomatic Relations Established With PRC 1 Nov

GF010827 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0745 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 1 Nov (WAKH) — The UAE and the People's Republic of China have decided to establish diplomatic relations on the ambassadorial level as of today. The UAE Foreign Ministry issued a statement jointly with the PRC today. The following is the text of the statement:

"On the basis of the mutual desire to bolster the friendship relations and to develop cooperation between their countries, the Governments of the UAE and the People's Republic of China have decided to establish diplomatic relations between them on the ambassadorial level as of today, the first of November, 1984."

Several meetings were held at the Foreign Ministry this week between the UAE delegation, led by Acting Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Ya'qub al-Kindi, and the PRC delegation, led by PRC Ambassador in Muscat Yuan Lulin, who is currently visiting the UAE, where it was agreed to establish diplomatic relations between the two countries. The agreement to establish diplomatic relations was signed on behalf of the UAE by Ya'qub al-Kindi, and was signed on behalf of the PRC by the PRC ambassador in Muscat, Yuan Lulin.

PDRY

Chairman Sends Message to Indian President on Gandhi

GF311219 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's

Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, sent a cable of condolence to Indian President Zail Singh on the death of Mrs Indira Gandhi, Indian prime minister and current chairman of the Nonaligned Movement.

YAR

President On Gandhi Death; Mourning Period Set

GF010606 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, sent a condolence cable to Indian President Giani Zail Singh in which he expressed his profound sorrow over the assassination of Mrs Indira Gandhi.

The president said in his cable that Mrs Gandhi was not only the leader of one of the democratic and parliamentarian countries in the world, but was a leader of the developing countries in their effort to achieve justice and equality. He added that her leading role in the Nonaligned Movement was most distinguished. He stressed that the sad incident and grievous disaster which shook the entire world is not considered a severe loss for the friendly Indian people alone, but a loss suffered by all nonaligned countries. The brother president concluded his cable by hoping that the Indian people and government will overcome this crisis and foil the plots of the enemies of India's security and stability.

The brother leader visited the Indian Embassy in Sanaa yesterday where he offered, in the name of the YAR's leadership, people, and government, condolences on Mrs Indira Gandhi's death. He wrote a statement in the book of condolences in which he said that this great tragedy is a disaster suffered by the Nonaligned Movement, considering that Indira Gandhi was leading the developing countries in their endeavor to achieve justice and equality. She was a leading world politician, and her role in the Nonaligned Movement was pioneering and most distinguished, as was her endeavor to achieve world security and peace.

Our country has declared a 3-day mourning period to express sorrow over her death and to show solidarity with the friendly Indian people.

Statement Issued on Indian President's Visit

GF010559 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 Oct 84

["Text" of the press statement issued on Indian President Giani Zail Singh's visit to the YAR, released in Sanaa and New Delhi "today"]

[Excerpts] In response to an official invitation from Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, His Excellency Indian President Giani Zail Singh made an official visit to the YAR from 29 to 31 October 1984. During his visit, views were exchanged between the two leaders on international issues and bilateral relations.

The two sides exchanged views on significant international issues, particularly on the serious situation in the Middle East and the role played by the Nonaligned Movement in achieving peace, security, and welfare in the world. The two sides expressed concern over the deterioration of the international situation, resulting from the competition and lack of confidence in the relations between the two superpowers and the continued use of power as a substitute for negotiation and dialogue.

The Iraq-Iran war, which is resulting in the loss of lives and destruction of properties and has had a serious effect on international security and peace, occupied a significant place in the talks between the two sides. It is more painful because this war is waged between two neighbors who are members of the Nonaligned Movement. This necessitates the exertion of efforts to find a peaceful, quick, and just resolution to this conflict through negotiations. The Nonaligned Movement has to exert all possible efforts to achieve a quick and peaceful settlement to the conflict.

The Yemeni side expressed appreciation for the personal efforts exerted by Mrs Indira Gandhi, Indian prime minister and current chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, to achieve this goal.

The two sides exchanged views on the current situation in the Indian Ocean and its natural extensions. They affirmed that the Indian Ocean should remain free from the superpowers' competition and from foreign military presence. The two sides affirmed their support for the convocation of the international conference on the Indian Ocean, which was called by the UN General Assembly, to declare the Indian Ocean a region of peace. They agreed that recent sabotage attempts in the Red Sea represent a development that causes concern, affirming the importance to safeguard the security and peace of the Red Sea region and the countries overlooking it and free navigation.

While reviewing the deteriorating international economic situation, the two sides pointed out the significance of the role the Nonaligned Movement is playing in treating the crisis in which the international economy is currently witnessing. The two sides expressed their conviction that the Nonaligned Movement represents the sole practical substitute to the policy of international blocs. They stressed the necessity of bolstering the Nonaligned Movement's unity and solidarity to enable it to contribute more effectively to reducing tension and to establish new international relations based on the principles of justice, mutual respect, and fruitful cooperation among the members of the international community.

While discussing bilateral relations, the two sides expressed their desire to increase and vary the economic exchanges between the two countries. The two presidents affirmed their intention to take steps to bolster and expand cooperation in various economic, scientific, technical, cultural, educational, information, and agricultural fields. The two sides affirmed the fruitful results which the two sides would achieve from the economic and technical cooperation within the framework of their bilateral relations.

His excellency the Indian president explained the situation in the Indian Peninsula, pointing out that India's policy is directed toward establishing amicable relations and creating an atmosphere of harmony and peace with its neighbors, and that India desires to see its neighbors flourish and develop. His excellency the Indian president affirmed that India believes that the power of its neighbors is its power, but unfortunately there is interference in India's internal affairs by foreign forces. He said that those forces are working against India's unity and encouraging its separatist forces.

On his part, his excellency the YAR president stressed his firm adherence to the principle of noninterference in the internal affairs of others and the resolution of conflicts through peaceful means. They both stressed the importance of continuing contacts between the two countries on various levels to develop the relations between them and achieve further cooperation.

His excellency the Indian president offered a warm invitation to His Excellency President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to visit India. His excellency accepted the invitation with gratitude, so the date will be fixed at a later time.

Reaction to Death of India's Indira Gandhi

Presidential Office Statement

NC312145 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Statement issued by the Presidential Office on 31 October]

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has received with sorrow and grief the news of Mrs Indira Gandhi's assassination after a life devoted to serving her homeland and people, defending the questions of the Third World's peoples and the nonaligned countries, and struggling for a better world in which love and fraternity will replace rancour, conflict, and hatred.

The late Mrs Gandhi waged a continuous struggle against exploitation and fanaticism. She played an unforgettable historic role in resisting sedition and acts of violence. She always displayed unique courage, a solid, inflexible determination, and a piercing vision that did not miss the target.

While denouncing the criminal attack on Mrs Gandhi, who devoted her life to serving her compatriots, Egypt hopes that the friendly Indian people will overcome the ordeal and will derive from the deceased's soul a return to cohesion and homogeneity in their ranks and unity on their domestic front so that India can continue its role of which we are proud and which we wish to be everlasting.

President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has issued a decision forming an official delegation to convey condolences and to take part in Indian Prime Minister Gandhi's funeral. The delegation includes Speaker of the People's Assembly Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, leader of the delegation; Staff Commodore Ra'fat Hasib, the president's aide de camp; Muhammad Ra'uf 'Abidin, secretary of the Presidential Office; and Egyptian Ambassador in New Delhi 'Amri Musa.

Ghali Reacts to Assassination

NC311201 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1145 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, 31 Oct (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has announced that the assassination of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi is not only a great shock but a great loss to the international community, as well as to the honored principles upheld by the Nonaligned Movement. Dr Ghali added that Mrs Gandhi's invaluable and tremendous contribution to the issue of world peace and to the principles of peaceful coexistence, in her efforts to conduct a successful dialogue between the north and the south, will always be among the brightest accomplishments of those leaders who offered sacrifice and their very lives to safeguard peace and to achieve progress within the international community.

Mubarak Expresses Sorrow

NC311555 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1510 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Bonn, 31 Oct (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak expressed his deep sorrow for the attack on Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian prime minister. In a statement today to journalists before the start of his talks with FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl, he said: In fact, what happenned to the late Mrs Indira Gandhi is very regrettable and saddening.

President Mubarak said that this lady had given everything for the sake of her country and had worked for the benefit of the world in various spheres. Indira Gandhi was chairman of the Nonaligned Movement recently; India is one of the founding members of the Nonaligned Movement.

President Mubrak expressed his deep sorrow over this incident and expressed his hope that India's wounds would heal quickly.

Mubarak Address to Cairo Pugwash Conference

NC311202 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1050 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, 31 Oct (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has said that the racist South African regime constitutes an aggression against the independent African states. The president added that the polarization attempts to which the African Continent has been exposed endangers its future and undermine its hopes for stability.

In a message to the Pugwash Conference — which opened here today — read on his behalf by Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, President Mubarak said the sabotage attempts in the Red Sea area threaten the southern flank of Africa, saying that security and stability in this part of Africa represent a principle factor in the security and stability in the African Continent as a whole.

In his message, President Mubarak said that much African wealth has been plundered, adding that this wealth should be regained so that the development battle can be successfully won.

The opening ceremony was attended by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs; representatives of 22 African states; Pugwash representatives from the United States, the Soviet Union, France, and Britain; the African ambassadors in Cairo; and Dr Mahmud Mahfuz, the chairman of the Egyptian Pugwash Conference.

Abu Talib on Relations With Jordan

JN010942 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 1 Nov 84 p 2

[Excerpt] Amman — *AL-DUSTUR* — Dr Sawfi Abu Talib, member of the Nile Valley Parliament delegation, has said that we must not confuse the restoration of Jordanian-Egyptian relations with the way to solve the Palestinian problem. In a statement to *AL-DUSTUR*, Abu Talib asserted that the restoration of relations in no way means committing one country to the methods of the other in viewing problems and ways to solve them. He noted that everyone knows that Jordan and Egypt converge at the same objective — regaining the occupied territories and enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their legitimate rights, including their right to self-determination in their homeland.

Abu Talib added: Those who explain this natural return of relations as being one bloc against another are mistaken. Even if

Iraq joins [Egypt and Jordan], it is wrong to describe Arab solidarity as a bloc. We are not against Syria, Libya, or any other Arab party.

Oil Prices Maintained; Production Cut

NC311744 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1510 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, 31 Oct (MENA) — The Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation has announced that the price of Egyptian oil exports during November will be the same as October. The corporation's Director General Dr Hammad Ayyub said that [the decision] to maintain the price of Egyptian oil followed a monthly review of world oil markets in light of the current instability in world markets.

Dr Ayyub noted that the price of Egyptian oil has been maintained for the seventh successive month. It is known that the price of Egyptian oil produced from the Gulf of Suez and Ra's Badran is $28 per barrel; lower Bala'im $27.5 per barrel; mixed Bala'im at $26.75 per barrel; and mixed Ra's Badran at $26.60 per barrel.

Oil Minister 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil said in Geneva yesterday that Egypt decided to cut back its daily oil production from 900,000 to 870,000 barrels.

Yugoslav Official Arrives in Cairo for Visit

NC010711 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0614 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 1 Nov (MENA) — Zivorad Kovacevic, SFRY minister of state and current chairman of the group of states which signed the Barcelona agreement on the protection of the Mediterranean from pollution, arrived in Cairo this morning for a several-day visit. The Yugoslav minister is scheduled to attend the meeting of the office staff of the states which signed the agreement. The meetings will begin in Cairo today and will last 2 days. The activities of the Mediterranean littoral states in this respect will be followed up at these meetings.

Economy Minister al-Sa'id Leaves for Athens

NC311520 cairo MENA in Arabic 1427 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, 31 Oct (MENA) — Dr Mustafa al-Sa'id, minister of economy and foreign trade, left Cairo this afternoon for Athens on a 5-day visit to Greece. Dr al-Sa'id will hold talks with Greek officials aimed at strengthening economic, technical, and commercial cooperation between the two countries.

AL-AHRAM on U.S.-USSR approach to Middle East

PM291349 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 26 Oct 84 p5

[Ahmad Nafi' article: "Before We Are Surprised by a 'New Yalta'"]

[Excerpts] The new development in the "international climate" that has occurred with such speed has probably surprised many Arab planners. It appears that the inclination by the two superpowers toward dialogue is stronger than we thought as the door has been left "ajar" for Soviet-U.S. contacts for the improvement of relations between the two countries.

The trend toward dialogue is a matter of prime concern to the Arab countries in view of the fact that the Middle East problem, with its military, economic, and political facets, is a top priority problem in the world. Therefore it is up to the Arabs to keep this problem in the forefront of the world's urgent problems that require a just and comprehensive solution. It is also up to the Arabs to prevent the dialogue, should it achieve progress, from becoming a "new Yalta" under which spheres of influence will be divided in the eighties as they were divided just before the end of World War II.

To ascertain the results achieved so far in the contacts between Washington and Moscow, we must review some of the developments that prove that "relaxation" is desired by the two giants and that the Middle East in particular is the avenue to the attempt to achieve this desire. Of course, the motives of both countries differ from one another. It is said that the Soviet Union is weighed down by the burden of armament at the expense of economic development, faltering because of the need for new scientific methods after the Soviet Union has been forced to match the United States by deploying its SS-22 missiles in East Germany and Czechoslovakia in response to U.S. deployment of Cruise and Pershing missiles in Western Europe.

On the other hand, it is said the United States feels that it has become sufficiently strong to resume negotiations with its principal opponent who is causing it trouble in various areas or that it is responding to pressure by Western public opinion which is demanding a halt to the arms race. Whatever the motives, the two superpowers feel that dialogue is in their interest and the restoration of the Brezhnev-Kissinger era is desirable.

However, the most important and sensational development took place before the meeting between Reagan and Gromyko when U.S. Secretary of States George Shultz announced that the United States is prepared to make new diplomatic efforts for a peaceful settlement in the Middle East and welcomes any constructive role by the Soviet Union in this regard. Furthermore, Shultz stressed that "the United States is seeking to begin dialogue with the Soviet Union regarding major problems, first and foremost the Middle East problem."

Shultz' statement has no doubt come as a major "turning point" in Washington's policy which, since the 1977 bilateral agreement lost its effectiveness, has sought to preclude the Soviet Union from playing a role in the area.

Since Moscow and Washington have declined to announce the results of the talks with Gromyko (the diplomatic representative of Soviet leadership), these results can be deduced from what happened recently, particularly on the part of the Soviet Union, which has exploited the the opportunity to improve its position in the "dialogue" with the United States, whose credibility in the Arab world is eroding because of its sponsoring of Israel's policy. The "new trends" in Soviet policy have been revealed by President Hafiz al-Asad's talks with Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko last week. This is in addition to other developments which have confirmed that the Soviet Union is abiding by the

requirements of dialogue which, naturally, will begin after the U.S. elections in November.

Contrary to what Syria wanted, the Soviet leadership confirmed its continued support for PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's leadership and for Iraq's stand in the Gulf war. It also confirmed that Soviet support for Syria will not be at the expense of moderate Arab countries.

Observers have noted that Al-Asad's visit to Moscow took place amid intensive contacts to widen Soviet ties with the Arab world to include Saudi Arabia, which has no diplomatic ties with the Soviet Union, but last year began buying quantities of Saudi oil. Moscow's desire to be accepted as "an influential factor in the Middle East formula" has been evident in its new openness toward many Arab countries. The Soviet Union has resumed full diplomatic representation with Egypt and concluded a friendship treaty with the YAR supported by Saudi Arabia. It also concluded an arms deal with Kuwait. This desire was also evident in Moscow's "tacit support" for rapprochement between Egypt and Jordan.

However, despite the Soviet openness toward the "moderate" Arab countries, Moscow will not bring pressure to bear on its ally Syria to accept the current efforts to begin peace talks under U.S. sponsorship. This is because the Soviet Union adheres to the call for convening an international peace conference on the Middle East which the PLO and various parties concerned with the crisis, including the Soviet Union and the United States, will attend. The Soviet Union's stand on the question of peace agrees with that of the Arab countries that support convening an international conference on the basis of two principles [as published] — that the convening of an international conference is as much an Arab demand as it is a UN demand.

Whatever the principles are, there is an identity of objective at present between the Soviet Union and the Arab countries with regard to the international conference which the United States is still strongly opposing. But the "change" that has taken place in relations between Washington and Moscow could open the door to a possible change in the U.S. stand. This depends on the outcome of the current contacts, which represent an improvement in the "climate" more than in tangible progress in the normalization of relations between the two giants. Although there are no fears at present of "comprehensive bilateral agreements," the international situation calls upon the Arab countries to quickly end their differences and unify their stands (as the EEC has done) so as to be able to convince the major powers to adopt the international formula of negotiations. They should also watch the situation closely so as not to be surprised by a new Yalta.

President Sends Condolences on Gandhi Death

JN311912 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1845 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Oct (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has described Mrs Indira Gandhi as one of the outstanding personalities of modern time, and as having played an important role on the Indian and international levels.

In a cable of condolences he sent to Indian President Zail Singh and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, the president expressed extreme sorrow on her death and said: During Mrs Indira Gandhi's reign, large-scale relations of friendship and cooperation developed between India and Iraq based on mutual respect and joint interests. The president expressed his sincere wishes for India's progress and his profound condolences on behalf of Iraq.

Iranian Planes Intercepted, Forced to Flee

JN311735 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Communique No 1,636 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 31 October 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. While continuing their heroic defense of the homeland, of sovereignty, and of honor, our Armed Forces reaffirm their determination and ability to defend the proud Iraqi borders and defeat the suspect, rapacious enemies. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. One of our combat patrol units pounded a number of enemy soldiers who attempted to advance toward our forward positions in the central sector, inflicting human and material losses. Our unit captured 62 rifles, 20 light rocket launchers, 7 machine guns of various type, and 5 radio units — all of which the enemy forces left in the battlefield after their bitter defeat at the hands of our heroic forces during the recent glorious battles at Sayf Sa'd.

2. Our forward units pounded enemy personnel and vehicles in the northern sector. Our forces killed seven soldiers, wounded others, and destroyed one vehicle and one observation post. New groups of Iranian civilians sought refuge with our forward units elsewhere in the same sector after escaping the tyranny and oppression of the Iranian rulers. They were all safely evacuated to the rear.

3. Using artillery and other weapons, our forward units opened concentrated fire on enemy position, artillery emplacements, and vehicles east of Basra. Our forces scored accurate hits, destroying one vehicle, one bulldozer, and three infantry positions. A fuel tank was set on fire.

4. One personnel position was destroyed and its occupants were either killed or wounded in the Maysan sector.

5. Two enemy fighter planes attempted to raid Al-Bakr and (Al-'Amiq) ports at 1120 today. Our alert air defenses intercepted them and forced them to flee without realizing their aims.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 31 October 1984

Ramadan Confers With GDR Minister 31 Oct

JN311638 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, received Felix Meier, GDR minister of electrical engineering and electronics, in Baghdad today. The GDR minister is visiting Iraq in order to participate in the 21st Baghdad International Fair.

They discussed bilateral relations and the means of promoting them and reviewed new aspects of strengthening economic, trade, and technical cooperation, as well as the GDR companies' contributions toward implementing Iraqi development projects. The GDR ambassador in Baghdad attended the meeting.

Polish Housing Minister, Delegation Arrive

JN311443 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1332 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Oct (INA) — Iraqi Planning Minister Samal Majid Faraj met here today with Polish Housing Minister Stanislaw Kukuryka, who is heading a delegation on a current visit to Iraq. The two sides reviewed the scope of economic and technical cooperation between the two countries and the means of bolstering them in the interest of the two friendly peoples.

Iraqi Housing and Reconstruction Minister Muhammad Fadl Husayn also met with the Polish housing minister today. The two sides discussed the existing cooperation relations between the two countries in the fields of building, construction, reconstruction, and housing, as well as the means of bolstering them.

Iraqi Light Industries Minister Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah met later today with the visiting Polish housing minister. The two sides discussed bilateral relations and the means of bolstering them in the interest of the two friendly peoples.

The Polish minister expressed his country's desire to expand relations of economic cooperation with Iraq and to increase Polish companies' participation in the implementation of development projects in Iraq.

Hasan 'Ali Receives Polish, GDR Ministers

JN311940 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1812 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Oct (INA) — Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, has met with Polish Housing Minister Stanislaw Kukuryka, who is currently visiting Iraq to attend tomorrow's opening of the 21st Baghdad International Fair.

They discussed the two countries' economic and technical relations and the means of developing them.

Later today, 'Ali met with Felix Meier, GDR minister of electrical engineering and electronics, who is currently visiting Iraq at the head of a delegation. They reviewed cooperation in the economic and trade fields and the means of promoting this cooperation in the interest of the two friendly peoples.

21st Baghdad International Fair Opens 1 Nov

JN011042 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1020 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 1 Nov (INA) — The 21st Baghdad International Fair was opened here today and will last for 15 days. There are 63 countries represented at the fair, including 17 Arab countries, in addition to more than 100 Arab companies and 1,700 internationalcompanies.

Relations Reportedly To Be Resumed With Egypt

GF311426 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 30 Oct 84 P 1

[Text] *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* has learned that Iraq decided to resume diplomatic relations with Egypt. Reliable sources told *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* that an announcement will be made to this effect next week.

Egyptian President Husni Mubarak received yesterday a message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn conveyed by the Iraqi ambassador to France. The Egyptian foreign minister did not report anything on the contents of the message. A well-informed source expressed his belief that the message dwelt on the measures due to be undertaken on the possible resumption of relations between Cairo and Baghdad in the near future. President Mubarak received yesterday the Iraqi ambassador in France for over an hour in Marigny Palace where Mubarak stayed during his visit to Paris.

Sa'dun Hammadi Elected National Assembly Speaker

JN311243 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1150 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 31 Oct (INA) — Dr Sa'dun Hammadi has been elected speaker of the Iraqi National Assembly in its current second term. Baha' al-Din Ahmad has been reelected deputy speaker and 'Abd al-Qadir al-Janabi has been reelected the Assembly's secretary.

These elections took place today at the beginning of the first session of the Assembly's second term.

Na'im Haddad, RCC member and Ba'th Party Regional Command member, was the National Assembly speaker during the past 4 years.

UK Accused of 'Hostile Stands' Toward Arab Gulf

JN010829 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0710 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Nov (INA) — *AL-THAWRAH* warns the Conservative government under Thatcher against the consequences of the outmoded colonialist methods the United Kingdom in cooperation with Iran is employing against Iraq and the Arab Gulf countries and which are based on terrorism, blackmail, and aggression. In an article today, *AL-THAWRAH* accuses the Thatcher government of adopting hostile stands toward the Arab Gulf countries by moving toward Iran and offering it military and economic assistance, hoping to obtain greater benefits in the future.

AL-THAWRAH stresses that the Thatcher government seeks to ignore the economic difficulties the United Kingdom is experiencing by consolidating its relations with Iran, doing its best to assist it instead of assisting the British people, and burdening the British budget with additional burdens outside the British Isles.

AL-THAWRAH explains that British policy serves the Iranian regime, and supports its continued aggression against Iraq because the United Kingdom has not forgotten its bitter defeat in Iraq, because it wishes to restore the old economic and political positions it had in Iran and wishes to remain close to oil sources in the region.

The paper says that the United Kingdom decided to reduce its oil prices to undermine the official OPEC prices and to try to make OPEC countries submit to British political and economic conditions.

The paper stresses that this British trend is directed against the Arab Gulf countries, which possess 60 percent of the world's oil reserves, in order to harm pan-Arab interests and put pressure on Gulf countries, making them adjust to and accept the Iranian aggression against Iraq.

Concluding, *AL-THAWRAH* ridicules the practices of the Conservative government under Thatcher, which continues to resort to all methods to return to its former colonies. The paper says that the United Kingdom does not want to learn from the lessons of the past, which led to the emancipation of these colonies and to the establishment of national liberation movements in the various continuents.

Iran's Move To Hold Islamic Seminar Viewed

GF311236 Baghdad International Service in Azeri 1900 GMT 29 Oct 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, the Ministry of Justice of the Islamic Republic of Iran will be organizing a seminar aimed at publicizing the legal system in Islam. Khomeyni's minister of justice, Hassan Habibi, has made this public through the press. Habibi said that the effort for maintaining the continuity of Islam will be confronted with a lot of difficulties because this is the first time Islam is being practiced in history. Naturally, he said, reaction against it cannot be avoided.

Khomeyni's minister recalled a question being asked in the world as to why the Islamic canon is being put into effect. Habibi explained that opposition in that regard stemmed from the (?naivete) of international law experts — they have but only superficial knowledge about Islam. They claim that Islamic order is not a system and as such cannot tackle all judicial matters. Therefore, the Iranian Supreme Judicial Council has decided to organize a seminar with a view to informing the world on the matter.

Habibi also asked all writers and authors of books and articles to send their books and works to the scientific council [words indistinct] the seminar.

Apparently, Habibi and the other Iranian robbers seem to have forgotten about all the crimes they have committed in the name of Islam and God during the past 6 years. It is because of this that there is absolutely no need for organizing such a seminar.

Another complaint raised by the mullahs' government in Iran is related to the fact that foreign countries and companies are reluctant to conclude agreements with that country on the basis of Islamic laws. It is due to this that the (?payment) of $1 billion to Iran by Japan, an amount which has been requested by the Tehran government, has remained (?pending). This is because of Japan's fear which stems from the false and nonsensical (?behavior) of the mullahs of Iran.

Yes, Mr Habibi, Mr Khomeyni, and Mr Khalkhali, there is no need for you to organize any seminar with a view to informing the world about Islam. The whole world knows you through your deeds.

Leaders React to Gandhi Assassination

Husayn Sends Condolences

JN311635 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Condolence cable from King Husayn to Indian President Zail Singh]

[Text] We here in Jordan have received the report on the assassination of Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi with feelings of shock, denunciation, and profound personal sorrow over this ugly crime which we all condemn.

Mrs Gandhi's personality, world status, and great contribution to the development of India and to the strengthening of international understanding have increased the immensity of this tragedy, which constitutes an irreplaceable loss not only for India, but for the entire developing world.

I send you my sincere wishes for the continued stability of India, the country that has always called for repudiating violence and adhering to Mahatma Gandhi's great principles, and has always sponsored the causes of peace within the Nonaligned Movement.

Hikmat Condemns Violence

JN311128 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Amman — Tahir Hikmat, minister of transportation and acting foreign minister, has condemned all acts of violence and political terrorism and all attempts to settle political differences by bloodshed.

Commenting on the assassination of Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi this morning, Hikmat added: We were shocked by Mrs Gandhi's death. We condemn all such acts.

The minister recalled Mrs Gandhi's distinguished, active role in the international arena and in the Nonaligned Movement, as well as her sympathy with Arab causes in general and the Palestine question in particular. He hoped that the friendly Indian people will enjoy further stability.

3-Day Mourning Period Declared

JN311725 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 31 Oct 84

["Text" of statement issued by the Royal Hashemite Court on 31 October]

[Text] At His Majesty King Husayn's instructions, and with feelings of shock and sorrow, the Royal Hashemite Court mourns the late Indira Gandhi, Indian prime minister and chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, who was exposed to the ugly crime of assassination this morning. The late prime minister was an outstanding leader who had wisdom, courage, and farsightedness, a fact that enabled her to make an effective contribution to modernizing and developing India, achieving its progress and establishing its balanced international relations. She received her intellectual course and political line from her father Jawaharlal Nehru, who contributed to establishing modern India. She also adopted Mahatma Gandhi's great principles of calling for peace and denunciation of violence.

Gandhi played a great role in making India adopt the principles of the Nonaligned Movement and the causes of international justice and peace. She also played a prominent role in achieving success for the Nonaligned conference that convened in the Indian capital last year. While the Royal Hashemite Court mourns the late great leader and expresses the feelings of sorrow of His Majesty King Husayn and the Jordanian family over her death, it praises the strong ties that characterize the friendly, strong relations that Jordan and India have in all phases and fields. The Royal Hashemite Court conveys the condolences of His Majesty King Husayn and the Jordanian people and government to the friendly Indian people and their leaders and government. At His Majesty King Husayn's instructions, the Royal Hashemite Court declares a 3-day mourning period.

Nile Valley Parliament Delegation Departs

JN311537 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic
1420 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Excerpts] Aqaba, 31 Oct (PETRA) — House of Representatives Speaker 'Akif al-Fayiz has said that Jordan's conditions for achieving peace are very clear. He added: We will never abandon these conditions, which are represented by exchanging territory for peace and by Israel's acceptance of Resolutions 242 and 338. Al-Fayiz was speaking at a joint press conference that he held in an Aqaba hotel with Rif'at al-Mahjub, Egyptian People's Assembly speaker and head of the Nile Valley Parliament delegation, to discuss the results of the Egyptian delegation's visit to Jordan.

Al-Fayiz added: Jordan's position toward all the proposed initiatives is clear, and Jordan wants territory for peace. He added: In order to achieve this, we called for convening an international conference for all the concerned parties, in order to find a just and lasting solution to the Palestine question. He also stressed that Israel's intransigence and U.S. support for Israel prevent the achievement of such a solution.

Al-Fayiz also welcomed the convening of the PNC in Amman, and announced that the Jordanian parliamentary delegation to the Arab Parliamentary Union scheduled to be held in Aden in January will present a proposal for restoring the Egyptian People's Assembly to the union. He also called for an Arab move on all political, parliamentary, official, and private levels in order to mend the split in the Arab ranks.

Al-Fayiz said that the parliaments of Jordan, Egypt, and Sudan have been summoned to work for restoring Arab solidarity, adding that the Arabs won world acclaim when they realized a united stand in 1973. He hoped that other Arab states would follow Jordan's move by restoring full relations with Egypt in order to promote Arab solidarity. Al-Fayiz said that he would visit Egypt soon, at the invitation of Egyptian People's Assembly Speaker Dr al-Mahjub.

Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub described the Nile Valley Parliament delegation's visit to Jordan as completely successful. He said that in restoring relations with Egypt, Jordan expressed not only its desire but the desire of the Arab people everywhere, because the Arab people consider the restoration of Jordanian- Egyptian relations as a turning point in joint Arab action. We will never forget this Jordanian initiative and this wise, decisive step in Arab history.

Al-Mahjub called on other Arab states to restore relations with Egypt, and said: If any Arab state takes one step toward Egypt, Egypt will take two steps toward it.

The Nile Valley parliamentary delegation left Aqaba for Cairo this afternoon. They were seen off by Speaker 'Akif al-Fayiz.

Delegation Head Interviewed

JN311122 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 31 Oct 84 pp 1, 23

[Sulayman al-Qudat and Ahmad Salamah dispatch]

[Text] Amman —Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, Egyptian People's Assembly speaker and head of the Nile Valley Parliament delegation currently visiting Jordan, has stressed that given time the restoration of relations between Egypt and Jordan will be a unifying factor toward joint Arab action. He said that the restoration of relations between the two countries is not directed against any other Arab country.

Answering a question on Egypt's connection with the Camp David accords, he said that discussion of this subject is useless now that Sinai has been restored. He said that the useful thing is to think of how to restore the Golan Heights and the occupied Palestinian territories. He added that this is more useful than opening old files, because the future of nations cannot be built this way. He said that Egypt spared no effort to defend its nation. He added that all differences will be settled through the course of time and that Egypt has assumed its responsibility and is ready to cooperate with the Arab brothers in order to continue assuming this responsibility. He wondered: Why do the Arab brothers reject the return to joint Arab action? Is Egypt's separation from them in the cause's interest and could it bring about a solution? He said that Egypt's return to the Arab nation strengthens Arab ranks. However, he said: If old files are opened, then let it be known that Egypt has assumed its duty and is not to be blamed.

He said: We do not ask anyone to commit himself to what Egypt has undertaken. We also do not say that Egypt's commitments should restrict anyone's action. What we want is for Egypt to join the Arab ranks in order to strengthen them.

Dr al-Mahjub added: We must exploit the restoration of relations between the two countries in the interest of Arab action to serve the Arab cause. The restoration of relations is not a mere desire for a meeting between brothers, because meetings have never stopped. However, the move was aimed at adopting a joint Arab action for the sake of the Arab cause. He said: Coordination will take place between Jordan and Egypt in the field of foreign policy, particularly concerning the Palestine question. The restoration of relations will be more significant when Egypt restores its relations with the other Arab states.

In reply to a question on President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri's recent statements on benefiting from Jewish know-how, Dr al-Mahjub said: The Sudanese president is an Arab who is sincere to the Palestine question just like any other Arab. President Numayri has blessed the dispatch of this delegation to Jordan, and his statements should be understood within this context.

Turkish Foreign Minister Arrives on Visit

JN010954 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 1 Nov 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — PETRA — Turkish Foreign Minister Vahit Halefoglu has arrived in Amman on a short visit to Jordan. The Turkish minister will meet with Acting Foreign Minister Tahir Hikmat. The deputy foreign minister hosted a dinner banquet at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel yesterday in honor of the Turkish foreign minister.

Religious Affairs Minister Returns From USSR

JN311855 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] 'Abd Khalaf al-Dawudiyah, minister of religious affairs and holy places, returned to Amman yesterday following a 2-week official visit to the Soviet Union. He said that the Soviet officials with whom he met during his visit stressed their desire to support our nation's causes, the foremost of which is the Palestine question. He also said that these officials consider the Palestine question as the main issue threatening world security. He also added that the delegation sensed very clearly that the Soviet leaders deeply appreciate Jordan and its people under His Majesty King Husayn. He added that they also appreciate His Majesty King Husayn's courage, wisdom, and clarity as well as his bravery in dealing with all issues with sincere objectivity.

Jetty To Be Built in Aqaba To Export Iraqi Oil

JN311054 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 31 Oct 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — Well-informed sources have told *AL-RA'Y* that detailed talks are being held on building a special jetty at Aqaba to export Iraqi oil and its by-products.

The sources added that talks have been going on for several weeks between the Jordanian Government and a group of international companies, which include Brazilian and Belgian firms.

The sources said that the initial cost of this project will amount to 10 million Jordanian dinars, which will be fully covered by the shipment revenues paid by the shipping companies.

Syrian Vice President Arrives in Bikfayya

NC010926 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam arrived at the presidential residence in Bikfayya at 1100 today. He was met by Minister Joseph al-Hashim, Colonel Simon Qassis, and Michel Samahah. Khaddam is accompanied by Mustafa al-Haji 'Ali, the director of his office. Khaddam began his meeting with President Amin al-Jumayyil immediately.

Soviet Envoy Comments on Meeting With Karami

NC311308 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] At 1100 today, Prime Minister Rashid Karami received Soviet Ambassador Aleksandr Soldatov. Following their 90-minute meeting, Ambassador Soldatov spoke with journalists:

[Begin recording — unidentified journalists' questions in Arabic and Soldatov's responses in Russian, with the aid of an unidentified translator] [Journalist] Will you please tell us what you discussed with the prime minister?

[Soldatov] Well, this is secret, but since you are our friends, we might say something.

[Journalist] What would you like to say?

[Soldatov] First of all, we want to thank his excellency the prime minister for having given us the opportunity to meet and talk with him. We had the opportunity to talk with his excellency about some matters of concern to your country, as well as about some issues that concern Lebanon internationally.

[Journalist] Do you have any information about an Israeli withdrawal from the south?

[Soldatov] First of all, we in the Soviet Union maintain the same position on this issue as do the United Nations, in accordance with the UN resolutions that call for the unconditional Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Lebanese territories.

[Journalist] Did the prime minister seek anything specific from you?

[Soldatov] As we mentioned earlier, we cannot divulge everything that went on during our meeting.

[Journalist] Does the Soviet Union approve of a wider role for UNIFIL in south Lebanon?

[Soldatov] This has not yet been discussed with us — with the Soviet Union.

[Journalist] Would the Soviet Union support an expansion of UNIFIL's role?

[Soldatov] We cannot say at the moment [words indistinct].

[Journalist] Lebanon has asked for an expanded role for UNIFIL. Did Lebanon ask the Soviet Union to support it on this matter?

[Soldatov] You are aware that we have no information on this.

[Journalist] Will Prime Minister Karami visit the Soviet Union?

[Soldatov] We don't know. You might know. However, as we have said before, His Excellency Prime Minister Karami has an open invitation to visit the Soviet union. Should he decide to travel to the Soviet Union on our plane today, we would be prepared to grant him an entry visa.

[Journalist] Did you extend an official invitation to him?

[Soldatov] He has an open invitation.

[Journalist] Mr Ambassador, you constantly declare Soviet support, but we have not seen anything in practice to date.

[Soldatov] A certain level of discernment is required for you to see some of [words indistinct] [end recording]

Reportage on Junblatt Stance on Army Deployment

Reportedly Approves Army Deployment

NC311504 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Quoting political sources in Beirut, REUTER reports that Minister Junblatt has approved in principle the deployment of the Lebanese Army along the southern coastal road. REUTER adds that all the principal political factions in Lebanon have also agreed in principle to let the Army maintain control over the southern coastal road.

Reportedly Denies Approving Deployment

NC010708 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Minister Walid Junblatt has categorically denied that he has approved the Army's deployment on the coastal road from Beirut to the south if the Israeli forces withdraw from the area.

Junblatt, who is currently visiting Amman, emphasized that he links the Army's deployment on this road with the results of the political negotiations he is conducting with the Lebanese Government.

Junblatt affirmed that, in the event of Israel's withdrawal, the Lebanese forces must leave the areas of Sidon and Iqlim al-Kharrub unconditionally and that fighting could resume in that area if they do not withdraw. He said this condition is necessary to ensure the protection and security of the Christians in that area.

Israeli radio yesterday quoted political sources in Beirut as having said that Junblatt had approved the deployment of Lebanese Army units along the coastal road leading to the south.

Whatever the case may be, the plan concerning the coastal road from Al-Madfun up to Al-Awwali is still the subject of elaborate discussions and constant contacts between Beirut and Damascus because the plan involves, among other things, the area of the mountain.

This very subject was discussed by President al-Jumayyil yesterday with former Ministers Marwan Hamadah and Khalid Junblatt in the presence of Samir Franjiyah. Later in the evening, contacts took place among Syrian officials and Minister Walid Junblatt, who is now in Amman, and Hamadah and Khalid Junblatt, who left for Damascus last night to meet with Walid Junblatt, who will leave for Damascus today.

Within this context, Army Intelligence Chief Colonel Simon Qassis will also leave for Damascus today.

JORDAN TIMES on Denial

JN010730 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 1 Nov 84 p 1

[By Salamah B. Ni'mat, *JORDAN TIMES* staff reporter]

[Excerpt] Amman — Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) Leader Walid Junblatt Wednesday denied reports that he has agreed to let the Lebanese army deploy along the coastal road down to South Lebanon's defence lines with Israel.

Mr. Junblatt told the *JORDAN TIMES* that he did not agree to the Lebanese army's deployment along Beirut-Sidon road and that "the conditions remain to be discussed in Damascus" before any deployment talkes place. He did not elaborate.

Mr. Junblatt, who also holds a portfolio at the Lebanese Cabinet, dismissed as not true reports that Lebanese militias have agreed to allow the army to take over the coastal road to South Lebanon in preparation for a sudden Israeli troop withdrawal.

Commenting on reports of fighting Tuesday between his forces and Syrian National Social Party (SNSP) militias in west Beirut, Mr. Junblatt said "all what happened was a clash among some individuals which was dramatised by the conspiring Western press."

Speaking in a brief telephone interview, Mr. Junblatt told the *JORDAN TIMES* his forces were "in alliance with the SNSP militias and on the same front."

Military Talks With Israel To Begin 5 Nov

NC010640 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Excerpts] The new and important development this morning is that Monday has been set as the date for the start of Lebanese-Israeli military talks, to be held under UN auspices at UNIFIL headquarters in Al-Naqurah. The date, which was officially set by the United Nations, was preceded by tacit Syrian approval. However, the obstacle that has now emerged is the position taken by Minister Walid Junblatt, which he announced in Amman last night in a statement in which he denied that he agreed to allow the Lebanese Army to take over the southern coastal road. Sources in the Lebanese forces, meanwhile, have expressed support for any government efforts to impose Army control outside Beirut. In any event, informed sources expect the situation to improve in the next few hours. Prime Minister Rashid Karami reported that Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam will arrive in Beirut in the next 48 hours to help solve the problem of the Lebanese Army's deployment on the southern coastal road and to convince the concerned Lebanese parties to agree to permit the Lebanese Army to assume control of the coastal road. Former Ministers Marwan Hamadah and Khalid Junblatt left for Damascus last night after meeting with President al-Jumayyil. Last night, a statement was issued by the UN Secretariat General announcing that Secretary General Perez de Cuellar, after consulting with the Governments of Lebanon and Israel, decided to call a conference among military representatives of both Lebanon and Israel for discussion of the military aspects of Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon and of the security arrangements in southern Lebanon. The statement explained that the conference will be held at UNIFIL headquarters in southern Lebanon beginnign Monday. It is believed that UNIFIL Commander General Callaghan will represent the UN Secretariat General in these military talks between Lebanon and Israel. Jean-Claude Aime, the UN secretary general's assistant deputy for political affairs, returned to Beirut from Israel on board a private UN plane yesterday.

U.S. Request for Reduced Air Flights Reported

NC010936 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] U.S. authorities have asked to Lebanon to reduce helicopter flights to and from the presidential palace in B'abda and to watch such flights closely, for fear of a suicide air attack against the U.S. ambassador's residence in Al-Yarzi.

Junblatt Gunmen Open Fire on Kafr Shima

NC311505 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Junblatt gunmen this afternoon opened fire with anti-aircraft guns and medium-caliber automatic weapons on Kafr Shima from their positions in Al-Shuwayfat.

Israeli Movements Along Confrontation Line Noted

NC311419 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] According to reports received from the western Al-Biqa' area, Israel has been making intensive military movements along the lines of confrontation with the Syrian forces in the area. Eyewitnesses said that many tanks and vehicles have changed positions along the line, which extends from the Kafr Quq hills in the east to the Al-Baruk mountain in the west.

Reaction to Death of India's Indira Gandhi

'Official' Statement

JN311653 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] An official source has stated the following: Today, the world was shocked by the assassination of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi while she was heroically leading the Indian people's struggle for progress and prosperity, for promoting the national independence of Third World countries, and for strengthening the efficiency and role of the Nonaligned Movement in the world.

The Syrian Arab Republic, which highly values the departed leader's firm stands in support of Arab causes and her support for the Arab nation's struggle against the Zionist and imperialist plans, finds the assassination a deplorable, heinous crime — not only against the departed leader and the Indian people, but also against peoples' causes and national aspirations.

While denouncing this outrageous crime which ended Mrs Gandhi's life, the Syrian Arab Republic reaffirms that it stands by India's side in these difficult circumstances. Syria is certain that India will continue its policy of promoting the Nonaligned Movement, and of supporting the people's struggle and just causes.

The Prime Ministry has issued instructions to fly flags over official buildings at half-mast for 3 days in mourning for Mrs Gandhi.

Al-Asad Cables Condolences

JN311306 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 31 Oct 84

["Text" of cable President Hafiz al-Asad sent to Rajiv Gandhi, secretary general of the Indian National Congress Party, on 31 October]

[Text] We have received with great sorrow news of the tragedy that has befallen you and India by the death of your mother Mrs Indira Gandhi, Indian prime minister and leader of the Indian National Congress Party. I feel your pain and share your sorrow on the death of so great a person whom we have always greatly respected and whose wise stands and principled support for the Arab cause we have always appreciated. Please, accept my heartfelt condolences.

[signed] Hafiz al-Asad

TISHRIN Implicates U.S.

JN010913 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0740 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Damascus, 1 Nov (SANA) — Today, *TISHRIN* mourns the death of Indian leader Indira Gandhi. The newspaper describes the assassination as part of an operation by the U.S.-Indian reactionary rightist alliance to rearrange the Indian state of affairs and remove the threat represented by India from the path of the U.S. onslaught against the progressive world.

TISHRIN adds: With the storming of the Golden Temple in Amritsar, Mrs Gandhi accused the CIA of exploiting the internal problem of the Sikhs to create political confusion in India.

TISHRIN notes that the U.S.-Indian reactionary alliance also extends to the Arab reactionary circles. This alliance aims at exploiting internal problems in every country and at assassinating leaders and crushing political trends hostile to the United States, the leader of the alliance.

Concluding, *TISHRIN* recalls the statement of the Egyptian regime's President Husni Mubarak on the so-called rearranging of the Arab state of affairs. The newspaper says: This statement included a plan to physically liquidate the symbols of the Arab progressive line. After such liquidations, it would be very easy to say that they were the result of internal problems such as the problem between Gandhi and the Sikhs. India is not the only source of danger to the imperialists and their allies.

Soviet Ambassador Reaffirms USSR Support, Friendship

JN311843 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Damascus — Soviet Ambassador to Syria Feliks Fedotov has stated that President Hafiz al-Asad's recent visit to the USSR has reaffirmed the profound friendship between the two countries, and has realized great results on all levels. He added that the visit reaffirmed the two countries' understanding and their joint struggle against the existing and future dangers on both the regional and international levels. This came when People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi received the ambassador today.

The Soviet ambassador reaffirmed his country's support for our persevering struggle for development and liberation. He said: The USSR considers Syria to be the first struggler state in the Middle East region — a state which firmly faces, and courageously and vehemntly confronts the implementation of the imperialist plots in this region. The ambassador referred to the aggressive moves of the Zionists, imperialists, and their allies in the region, and to their threat both to international peace and security and to Arab and international liberation movements. He affirmed the need for the cohesion of all the forces of progress and freedom to confront these moves and foil their threats.

Al-Zu'bi welcomed the ambassador, renewing Syria's appreciation for the USSR's positive stand of supporting the just Arab causes. He affirmed Syria's unchanging stand, under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad, in its struggle and unshakeable steadfastness in facing the imperialist and Zionist plots hostile to the liberation movements and to the struggle of people who strive for freedom and independence.

UN-Sponsored Talks With Lebanon To Begin 5 Nov

Security Sources Satisfied

TA010544 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] In 4 days [5 November] Israel and Lebanon will begin military negotiations on an IDF withdrawal from southern Lebanon and on security arrangements in the area. This was officialy announced at the UN Center last night. The negotiations will take place at the UN Headquarters in Al-Naqurah. The announcement states that the talks were arranged by the UN secretary, following consultations with the Israeli and Lebanese Governments.

Security sources have expressed their satisfaction with the announcement by the UN secretary. These sources told our military corresponde Shmu'el Tal that the team of officers who are to participate in the talks has not yet been appointed. The decision will be made once the United Nations has provided Israel with the list of Lebanese officers.

UN Meets Representatives

TA010826 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0746 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] UN officials are meeting today with the IDF and the Lebanese Army to conclude final details regarding the talks which are to be held in Al-Naqurah on 5 November. Details which have not yet been finalized are the hour at which the talks will begin, the shape of the table, and whether the talks will be opened with a military ceremony. UNIFIL Commander Callaghan will probably chair the first meeting. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that it has been conlcuded that the first two meetings will be devoted to determining the order of the items on the agenda.

Rabin Demands Quick Conclusion

TA010948 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Israel will demand a quick conclusion to the talks with Lebanon, without concessions on matters that are important to Israel. Defense Minister Rabin said this to Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs Richard Murphy. Meanwhile UN officials have begun talks with the IDF and the Lebanese Army to decide on the details of the talks.

Restrained Reaction Noted

TA011134 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Report by David Essing on reaction to forthcoming talks in Al-Naqurah]

[Text] Israeli officials see the development as a step forward, but they are not exactly jumping for joy. Sources in the defense establishment are pleased the negotiations are finally getting underway, but it is still too early to talk about the prospects. In fact, the details have not been completed, nor the Israeli Army officers appointed to the negotiations. This will come only after Israel receives a list of the Lebanese officers via the United Nations. But what is clear is the negotiations will be solely military, a big comedown from the high hopes of a political gain from the Peace for Galilee operation.

Israel has taken Defense Minister Rabin's advice and given in on the format of the negotiations. Israel had opposed negotiating through the Armistice Commission, or under the UN's chairmanship, but the negotiations will be conducted at UN Headquarters in Al-Naqurah, with the UN's participation. This will make it easy for the Lebanese to portray the talks as simply being a continuation of the Armistice Commission, without any political connotations.

Israeli observers believe the Lebanese waited for the Syrian go-ahead, and also say the Lebanese officers can be expected to stick to a Syrian line when it comes to security arrangements. In other words, the Lebanese will not budge without the green light from Damascus. It's understandable, then, why Israeli officials are restrained in their reaction. While Israel has given in on any political spin-off from the negotiations, it cannot give in on adequate security arrangements and the Lahd forces — the backbone of a settlement that will enable an Israeli withdrawal. This is where American mediator Richard Murphy comes in. Murphy will not be dealing with the Lebanese, but with the Syrians, trying to mold a settlement that Israel and Lebanon and Syria can live with. On this score, Defense Minister Rabin believes that President al-Asad has reason to cooperate, but past experience shows the Syrians drive a hard bargain, and that a quick fix on south Lebanon may not be possible.

Shamir, Murphy Discuss Talks

TA011142 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1125 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] The meeting between Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy ended a few minutes ago. Murphy welcomed the upcoming meeting between Israel and Lebanese officers in Al-Naqurah, and said he was continuing to study the problems in the region. Murphy also expressed deep regret over the assassination of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

Talks Stand 'Good Chance'

TA011257 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] The United States and Israel believe that there is a good chance that security arrangements in southern Lebanon will be worked out in the talks between the IDF and representatives of the Lebanese Army, as it seems that Syria has given its blessing to this move. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that this has emerged from the talks held this afternoon between Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy. Earlier, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin made it plain to Richard Murphy that Israel will demand that a quick conclusion be reached, and that Israel will

not back off from its demand to station the army of southern Lebanon along the border.

Rabin: Solution to Problem Lies in Syrian Talks

TA311851 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] There are no good solutions to the Lebanese problem, says Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. He told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee: The way to a solution Israel can live with lies in negotiations with Syria. Jack Katzenell reports:

Defense Minister Rabin conceded that the presence of the Israeli Army in Lebanon ensures the security of the towns and villages in northern Israel, but it exposes Israeli soldiers to attacks, and it aggravates the problem of terrorism on the part of the Shi'ites in south Lebanon. There is no chance of an agreement with the Lebanese Government, Rabin said, and therefore there is no question of the Lebanese Army's being stationed in south Lebanon. The only way to achieve an arrangement Israel can live with lies in negotiations with Syria, and there are indications that the Syrians are interested in a deal.

Rabin admitted that time is running out, but he did not say how much time he is allowing for the Syrian option.

Likud Knesset Member Pinhas Goldstein asked him what Israel would do if the Syrians do not make a deal. The defense minister replied that he has other options, although he would not elaborate at this time. But he stressed that there should be no more talk of a unilateral Israeli withdrawal in south Lebanon.

In general, the members of the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee endorsed Rabin's policies. The chairman, Abba Eban, said the term unilateral withdrawal should be dropped from the lexicon in favor of withdrawal under minimal conditions.

Knesset Member Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer of the Alignment [as heard] said Israel should not rule out a unilateral withdrawal, if the talks with Syria fail. He was skeptical about whether the Syrians really wanted an agreement with Israel.

From the right-wing opposition Tehiya-TZOMET caucus, former Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan said he had reservations about an arrangement with Syria, but he was not against Yitzhaq Rabin's program in essence.

Sees U.S. Post-Election Move

TA312020 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Report by Knesset correspondent Ya'aqov Ahime'ir]

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin expressed his belief today that after next week's U.S. presidential elections, Ronald Reagan, if he is reelected, will initiate a political move regarding Jordan in a bid to bring it to the negotiating table with Israel.

As for Lebanon, the defense minister regards Israel's military presence there within the context of the Syrian policy toward Jordan. Syria, after all, is seeking to enjoy absolute freedom of operation vis-a-vis Jordan, and has even contemplated threatening it militarily. As long as Israel remains in Lebanon, that freedom of action is limited. Thus, in Rabin's opinion, Syria is interested in seeing Israel get out of Lebanon in order to enjoy freedom of action regarding Jordan.

As for future efforts toward reaching an Israeli-Lebanese arrangement, Rabin predicts the following: Israel will talk to Lebanon, and the United States will join this process only through contacts with Syria, because the Americans have a big chip on their shoulder — if one may say so — regarding their involvement in Lebanon in light of what happened to them there.

Apparently Knesset members [MK] Refa'el Eytan and Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer were today's skeptics with regard to the Syrian option. MK Ben-Eli'ezer even has his own plan for an arrangement in Lebanon, which he related to the defense minister. On the other hand, Mr Rabin won the opposition's endorsement as expressed by MAPAM MK Victor Shem-Tov, because he publicly used the term "the Lebanese quagmire."

Uri Lubrani Analyzes Lebanon Developments

TA311816 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1605 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Interview with Uri Lubrani, coordinator of government activities in Lebanon, by Doron Rosenblum on the "Gunsight" program; date and place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Lubrani] First of all, logically speaking, one must assume that the Syrians have quite a few reasons to want to reach an arrangement involving greater credibility for the government they established and support in Beirut, for a price that for them is reasonable. That price is simple: Right now, Israel is talking about an arrangement, or arrangements, that will guarantee peace for the Galilee. These are security arrangements, and Israel has not been talking about any other goal but that one. This actually is a novelty. Therefore, there are good grounds for believing that the Syrians will be prepared for some sort of arrangement that will promise them advantages at such a cost.

[Rosenblum] You are saying that senior Defense Ministry sources have expressed optimism about this, and yet Syrian sources — even official sources — have been singing other tunes.

[Lubrani] We are living, after all, in the Middle East. In this region one hears rhetoric, and there is such a thing as saying one thing and meaning something else. Furthermore, a lot falls within the gray area. I can only say that there is solid ground for the hope that there is something to talk about.

[Rosenblum] Is there any chance for direct contacts between representatives of Israel and Syria?

[Lubrani] I do not believe there are any chances, nor are they necessary for the purpose of reaching the objectives we have set for ourselves.

[Rosenblum] The Lebanese are only prepared to engage in talks with Israel within the framework of the so-called Armistice Commission, but Israel opposes this very firmly. Why?

[Lubrani] In our lexicon, the regimen of Armistice Commission talks no longer exists. Not only is it defunct, but it has been so for a long time, and like many things which we began our political life with and which have petered out, this, too, has fizzled out.

[Rosenblum] So what forum would be acceptable to Israel?

[Lubrani] I believe it would be any arrangement that would guarantee a direct dialogue between us and Lebanon over practical problems relating to reaching security arrangements.

[Rosenblum] One of the most serious problems on the road to a withdrawal is the army of southern Lebanon [ASL]. Syria insists that the ASL form no part of the agreement and play no role in it; whereas Israel regards it as a central component of any possible solution. What solution can you envision to this problem? And is there a chance that Israel might retreat somewhat from its position on the ASL?

[Lubrani] I regard the centrality of the ASL in any arrangement for southern Lebanon as irreplaceable. That is why I also cannot picture any other arrangement that would provide solutions to the things the ASL can do. Therefore, I believe that insofar as the conditions for our entering these negotiations are concerned, the ASL will continue to constitute a central factor in any arrangement.

[Rosenblum] Consequently, are these not conditions that will guarantee a deadlock in negotiations, or prevent future contacts?

[Lubrani] I believe we will not encounter a deaf ear in regard to a demand that is fundamental and logical from our standpoint. Let us wait and see how we can overcome this. But I repeat: In its present make-up, the ASL constitutes a central factor in any arrangement.

[Rosenblum] On the subject of the ASL, what is its military capability at this time? If it really deploys along our northern border, if the IDF withdraws, will it be competent enough to guarantee peace for the Galilee settlements?

[Lubrani] We view the composite arrangements we are striving to obtain as one package, in which both the ASL and UNIFIL are prime factors. We do not regard either of them separately. We see them as complementary systems. I believe that the ASL, in its present constellation and its future composition, will be able to carry out the missions entrusted to it.

[Rosenblum] Will the ASL be able to carry out those missions even without the direct, immediate support in the field that the IDF currently provides?

[Lubrani] The question is what do you mean by direct and immediate. Undoubtedly, the ASL should remain under IDF supervision. In general, the IDF will remain deployed wherever it is decided it should be, and it will be within earshot of what is happening across the border. It will also be near enough to be quickly summoned and extend assistance. This is a prerequisite, a *sine qua non*. Therefore, since we are talking about distances that are not light years, clearly the ASL will have to realize that the IDF is near, and know that should it be incapable of overcoming some problem, the IDF would have to be there. It would have to be there because the IDF is supposed to defend our northern border.

[Rosenblum] In this context, when we talk about practical arrangements in the field, has anyone suggested that the IDF remain there during the day and return home at night, or vice versa?

[Lubrani] I do not know whether it will be during the day or during the night, but the spirit of the IDF will hover over the scene in southern Lebanon for a very long time to come.

[Rosenblum] Uri Lubrani, how would you describe the current stage in terms of contacts over an arrangement for Lebanon; and how would you evaluate the chances of reaching such an arrangement?

[Lubrani] Now that the Cabinet has made its decision, I think the time has come to exhaust this move, which is in its initial stages. I believe it will take some time before we know whether this move is significant and can bear fruit. This will not happen overnight. I am by nature an optimist, but beyond that I believe the arrangement has a chance. One should give it a chance, especially in light of the fact that the alternatives I can envisage to this option are all much worse for all the parties — not only for us, but also for the Lebanese and the other partners to any future arrangement. In other words, it is very likely that the chances of reaching an arrangement are good.

[Rosenblum] How do you foresee developments within the Lebanese population in the south — Druze, Christians, Shi'ites — after we withdraw?

[Lubrani] One of our concerns regarding a withdrawal or redeployment is that this could lead to sectarian strife, as manifest today even in the areas we have evacuated, in Al-Shuf, the Al-Shuf slopes, and in Beirut. We would very much like to include in the terms for our withdrawal from these regions a condition that there be no sectarian wars, because we will naturally always be held responsible for them. But I would like to add immediately in the same spirit that this is not a precondition we are unwilling to forgo at any cost and it is not one we present as an absolute prerequisite for our withdrawal. We will make every effort to prevent this.

[Rosenblum] Another question on a different issue: Do you share the view that Israel has let the Shi'ite genie out of the bottle, and that in the case of an IDF withdrawal southward, it will have to combat a new type of problem: Shi'ite terrorism directed against the northern settlements?

[Lubrani] There is certainly a chance — I would assess it as fair — that there will be Shi'ite-Khomeyniite terrorism that will pursue us at our heels. One need only note their slogans which talk not of Metulla or Rosh Haniqra, but of Jerusalem. So we should expect developments from that direction that will not

make us happy. As for the Al-Amalist Shi'ite terrorism — this is a serious issue. My belief is that it will not be the same kind of terrorism we are experiencing today.

U.S. Transfers $1.2 Billion in Civilian Aid

TA312006 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] The United States transferred to the Government of Israel $1.2 billion about an hour ago — the entire civilian aid grant for the next fiscal year. Our Washington correspondent Razi Barqay reports that this is the largest one-time sum ever given to Israel. Previously the aid money was divided throughout the year, but this year the administration and Congress agreed to transfer the money to Israel as soon as the U.S. fiscal year began.

Israeli officials have told our correspondent that the grant will greatly alleviate the distress in Israel's foreign currency reserves. During this fiscal year, Israel will also receive $1.4 billion in military aid from the United States.

Talks for More Aid Begin

TA010557 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Israel has already initiated contacts with the U.S. Administration to receive more financial aid. This was reported by the economic attache of the Israeli Embassy in the United States, Dan Halperin, to our correspondent Razi Barqay. The Joint Economic Development Group will examine the amount of aid for the current and coming fiscal years.

Peres: Economic Package Deal Signed Soon

TA311842 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Excerpts] The voting on the position of the Labor Party's secretary general will end in about 30 minutes. The voting was preceded by a firm speech on the economy by Prime Minister Peres, who said that the signing of the economic package deal is very near. That was the key, programmatic speech of the evening. Those of you who are not following the internal struggles in this party should be reminded that there are four contestants for this position: Mikha Harish, Gid'on Ben-Yisra'el, 'Uzi Bar'am and Sha'ul Ben-Simhon. Our correspondent Shalom Oren reports from the Ohel Shem hall in Tel Aviv:

Prime Minister Peres, in a firm socioeconomic speech in the Ohel Shem hall in Tel Aviv, said that the signing of the economic package deal is very near. We should concentrate not only on entering the deal but also on emerging from it in 3 months, Peres said. We must not have a situation in which the package deal, which is only part of the economic plan, is followed by renewed inflation. We must not, the prime minister said, examine the economic process in its midst; we must not wait for results with a stopwatch in hand.

In addition to receiving U.S. funds, we should also make demands of ourselves. There are billions of parasitic dollars under the floorboards, Mr Peres said, and we should economize and contribute to the Israeli economy.

At the conclusion of his speech, Mr Peres said that since the national unity government was founded there has been less hatred, less incitement, and a consensus about the need to get out of Lebanon. The national style is different, Peres said; we are again a restrained, liberal, and peace-seeking country.

Peres Relieves Moda'i

TA010905 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 1 Nov 84 p 1

[Report by economic correspondent Avi Temkin]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has decided to relieve Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i of responsibility for negotiations on a package deal between the government, the Histadrut and the manufacturers, reliable sources told *THE JERUSALEM POST* yesterday. The sources added that Peres will deal with the talks himself from now on.

The prime minister's decision has caused tension between him and Moda'i, the sources said. "The finance minister is not exactly happy with the situation," they said.

Moda'i will now concentrate on budget matters, the sources said. He will still be involved in the package deal negotiations but will not have any decision-making power on controversial issues.

The three-way package deal is intented to slow inflation and salvage shrinking foreign-currency reserves.

Levi Stalls Moda'i Plan To Extend Freeze

TA311517 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] The finance minister will raise his proposal to extend the freeze on government transactions as early as the next Cabinet session [scheduled for Sunday, 4 November]. The Ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs today refused to authorize the minister's proposal.

Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that the opponents of this proposal were again headed by Deputy Prime Minister David Levi, who claimed that an absolute, indiscriminate freeze is a serious and harmful economic move because it causes projects to crumble. A drastic freeze on transactions, he believes, is not a good economic method or policy. Minister Levi denied deliberately undermining the finance minister's proposal.

Minister Moda'i, on the other hand, said that a freeze on government transactions is urgently needed, whereas a package deal is not such a pressing matter and is not at the top of his personal list of priorities.

Rabin Addresses Knesset on Arab Bank, 'Terrorism'
TA311149 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Addressing the Knesset plenum, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said Israel will wage a bitter war against terrorism, but added that along with that war it will allow the inhabitants of the territories to improve their standard of living. Rabin was speaking during the debate on the establishment of an Arab bank in the territories, about which our correspondent Sha'ul Stav reports:

Speaking before the Knesset plenum today, the defense minister confirmed that negotiations with the entrepreneurs involved in the establishment of an Arab bank in the territories have reached the practical stage. He said that the initiative is primarily local and not from overseas.

Knesset Member [MK] Gershon Shafat of Tehiya said that the establishment of the bank could result in the political severance of Judaea and Samaria from Israel, adding that the bank could serve as an institution in the Palestinian state that could be established.

Citizens Rights Movement MK Ran Kohen assaulted the Tehiya members, saying: You oppose the establishment of any economic institution in the territories because you want to create dependence that will lead to annexation.

Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said that the improvement of the standard of living does not conflict with Israel's war to the bitter end against terrorism.

[Begin Rabin recording] We will fight a war to the bitter end against terrorism, but at the same time we will extend aid to the inhabitants and enable them to improve their standard of living and their day-to-day welfare. We will do that with the proviso that they do not harm any concept of a political solution suggested by the various components of the incumbent Cabinet. The bank's activities and its establishment will be subject to the supervision of the Bank of Israel and will be conducted in accordance with the accepted Bank of Israel norms, regulations, and procedures. Special care will be taken to see that these activities do not constitute a security risk. [end recording]

Discussion of the Arab Bank has been transferred to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

Territories Coordinator on Jewish-Arab Relations
TA312058 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1935 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Interview in the Tel Aviv studio with Shmu'el Goren, coordinator of government activities in the territories, by territories correspondent Gil Sadan, moderated by Nishim Mish'al in the Jerusalem studio — live]

[Excerpt] [Mish'al] Mr Goren, I hope you heard our debate and the argument raised by [Tehiya-TZOMET Knesset Member] Rabbi Eli'ezer Waldman — which I suppose is seconded by the settlement leaders — criticizing the lenient policy and claiming that it actually leads to terrorist activity. Would you comment on this?

[Goren] I would not like to comment on what I heard, because I do not wish to use the television screen to argue over comments made earlier. What I would like to say, however, is that our fundamental objective is to maintain law and order in the territories. This is being done to the best of our ability. I cannot elaborate here on all the means we are employing, but some of them are better known than others. In general, the atmosphere is one of growing moderation, and of a decrease in the number of disturbances.

Over the last few days, however, this trend assumed a certain measure of extremism, for a number of reasons. One of them is the bus incident in Jerusalem. This was a serious case, as was the Cremisan murders, which was also a unique occurrence. We know of cases where stones were thrown, but we are doing whatever is possible — I would not go so far as to say that we are doing everything, nor would I say that there is no room for improvement. Yet our aim is to do things, and we are examining all the possibilities. If someone intends to pursue the methods we saw about 30 minutes ago in India, and burns down houses or demolishes them or opens fire on women and children — this could conceivably prevent stone throwing to some extent, but in the long run these are negative, unacceptable methods and we will not open fire in order to kill women and children.

[Sadan] But still, Mr Goren, in the territories there are Jewish inhabitants who apparently truly believe that their well-being is not guaranteed; they maintain that this is what leads to Jewish terrorism. How would you pacify these people?

[Goren] I understand the sensitivity of these people. I meet with them and I visit them. It is very unpleasant and even dangerous to be pelted with stones. Our predicament is a result of certain facts. To say that we will be able to completely stop the stone throwing is something I cannot promise, and something I do not believe anyone else can promise. However, I can promise you that within the framework of the given situation and the circumstances of every case, we will do what can be done.

[Sadan] I would again like to address the problem from the point of view of the Jewish settlers. The prime minister and the defense minister have proclaimed in the last few days a liberal attitude toward the Arab population, and part of this process is handing control over the main cities back to Arabs. Are you not afraid that the situation in which the cities were controlled by men whom the authorities regarded as PLO supporters who encourage extremist elements in the territories might recur?

[Goren] If we thought like you, we would not have pursued this course. The intention to replace the four mayors — and we are only talking about four — is nothing new. It has been declared before — in the near and distant past — more than once. We have repeatedly said that our basic intention is to replace the four mayors, so what I say is nothing new. We have set several conditions for this, and if they are met — in other words, if we find people who are suitable for the job, people who will not take part in hostile activity or be in touch with hostile elements — we will consider appointing them as replacement for the people

currently holding those positions. But if these conditions are not met, we will not do this. No one is pressing us on this matter. We consider everything with the utmost seriousness, as this is a most responsible business. We are in no hurry.

[Sadan] When one talks of liberalization in the territories, what is the limit? For instances, in a short while the PNC, the PLO's parliament, will convene in Jordan and representatives from the territories will be invited. Will you permit the exit of representatives from the territories so they can, possibly, strengthen moderate tendencies in the PLO parliament, or will you say that this is the limit to your liberalization?

[Goren] You are confusing two things here. The PNC is a PLO tool and our policy both in the territories and outside is to fight the PLO, and we are doing exactly that. We may not be doing everything but we are doing our best anyway. We are fighting the PLO both beyond and within our borders. Nobody can construe liberalization to mean that we will let go of this war against the PLO.

As for the liberalization you were referring to: This is not new. A number of points have recently emerged, mostly pertaining to style but, perhaps, not exclusively. I do not see the limits, nor are there limits to this. We want the people in the territories to feel good, because if they do, we will have fewer problems. We are working on this. We have no intention of taking risks. If we see that any action we adopt in the territories restoring the PLO to its previous status, we will simply not carry it further.

[Sadan] Fears have been expressed during a Knesset debate today to the effect that if something is good for the Arabs, it may not be so good for the Jews. The matter of the Arab bank in the territories has been brought up as an example. The contention is that this may create a basis for the development of an economic infrastructure which would lead to the development of an infrastructure for a Palestinian state, at the worst, or at the very least, the funneling of PLO funds into the territories. How would you control such a bank? What weight would it carry?

[Goren] Everybody is talking about this bank, and you can be sure I was expecting a question on it, too. We have announced our intention to enable a group of local, not foreign, entrepreneurs to set up a bank. Incidentally, there is a similar bank in Gaza. In Gaza the situation is different, as the shekel is the only legal tender there, while in Judaea and Samaria, the Jordanian dinar is also legal tender. This is the main difference and hence the problems. There are a number of additional differences, but in principle, this is not a new matter.

The bank issue is under the control of the Israeli banks' comptroller. I have heard various themes to the effect that we intend to transfer supervision over this bank to Jordan or other elements, and the answer to this is negative. The supervision of the bank will be by this comptroller and she surely knows her duties. In addition, we, as the Civilian Administration in the territories, will supervise the bank also from the security point of view. If the conditions we set are not met, this bank will not be established. If this bank is set up but conditions change later on, we will close it.

Bar-Lev: Radicalization Marked Among Arabs

TA311445 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1400 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Police Affairs Minister Hayim Bar-Lev has said that there is a marked radicalization among Arabs living in Israel. He claims most of them are good citizens of the country, but some of them tend to lean more toward the Palestinian element so that it becomes a more central factor in their beliefs. He believes that the absence of a political arrangement will serve only to exacerbate this radicalization further. Bar-Lev added that the activity of Jewish extremists makes the problem even worse, since radicalization breeds radicalization. Minister Bar-Lev was speaking in the course of a get-acquainted tour of the Ramla offices of the Police Central District headquarters, and his remarks were reported by our correspondent Moshe Halevi.

Bethlehem University Disturbances Continue

Students Begin To Disperse

TA311425 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1400 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] The students who sequestered themselves in the Bethlehem University campus and pelted the main highway and the security forces personnel with stones have begun to disperse now, but they are still throwing stones from the campus. This was reported by our correspondent Arye Gus.

This morning the security forces encircled the university ground, and fired tear gas to prevent the throwing of stones.

University Closed for 4 Days

TA311609 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] The Military Government has closed the Bethlehem University for 4 days because of the riots there today and 2 days ago. The vice chancellor of the university was summoned to the Bethlehem military governor this afternoon, and was handed the closure order. He told our correspondent he is glad the measures taken by the Military Government were not harsher.

The Bethlehem students today threw rocks at the main entrance to the city. They then returned to the campus, flew Palestinian flags, and threw stones at the security forces. They dispersed about 2 hours ago.

Closure Termed Warning

TA311830 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Excerpts] Bethlehem University has been closed down for 4 days by military order. The step follows 3 days of stonethrowing demonstrations. Jerry Cheslow reports:

The 4-day closure was a warning, sources in the Civil Administration say. They are giving the students a chance to cool off

after Sunday's rocket attack on an Arab bus in Jerusalem. If this does not work, the sources say, firmer action may be taken. The closure follows 3 days of stone throwing and a number of Military Government warnings to the university administration. This morning the military put up a roadblock at the entrance to the university, to prevent nonstudents from entering. On Monday outside agitators reportedly took part in the disturbances. But, as Vice Chancellor Brother Thomas Scanlon explains, a dynamic which started at the beginning of the week made the demonstrations almost inevitable.

The 4-day closure is in essence just 2 days. Many Muslim students don't attend classes on Friday, and since it's a Vatican university, it's closed on Sunday anyway.

The closure means that practically no students will study at West Bank universities over the next few days. Three universities are not functioning due to disputes between the students and the administration: Al-Najah University in Nabulus is closed by military order.

New Labor Party Secretary General Elected

TA311937 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Knesset Member 'Uzi Bar'am this evening was elected the Labor Party's secretary general. He beat his opponent, Mikha Harish, by only 6 votes: He received 358 votes, as opposed to 352 votes received by Harish. Gid'on Ben-Yisra'el received 159 votes and Sha'ul Ben-Simhon received 71 votes.

Likud Ministers' Forum Meets for First Time

TA311644 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] The Liberal faction of the Likud will meet on Friday in Tel Aviv to discuss its future. On its agenda will be a proposal to elect a delegation that will begin examining relations between the Liberals and Herut.

The forum of Likud ministers, which is parallel to the Sarenu [Our Ministers] forum of the Labor Party, met this morning for the first time. Our correspondent Ilana Dayan reports:

This morning the forum of Likud ministers was formed in the foreign minister's office in Jerusalem — if one could actually call it the Likud ministers' forum. From now on, it will hold periodic meetings in Yitzhaq Shamir's office to discuss topical issues, hold internal party debates, and coordinate positions in preparation for Cabinet sessions.

This morning the Likud ministers heard reports from Ministers Moda'i and Sharon on the economic situation and the negotiations on a package deal, and held a debate on these issues. The participants also addressed relations between the Alignment and Likud ministers within the unity government.

Yitzhaq Shamir, David Levi, Ari'el Sharon, and Yoram Aridor met later for consultations in anticipation of the Herut Party Center meeting tomorrow, which is expected to set a date for the party convention.

On Friday, incidentally, the Liberal faction will meet in Tel Aviv for what was called a session vital to the future of the Likud. On the agenda is a proposal to establish a delegation to negotiate with Herut and discuss relations between the two parties. Evidently, some members will suggest that no decision or practical move be made at this stage.

Likud leaders Yitzhaq Shamir, David Levi, and Moshe Nisim met today with SHAS leader Minister Yitzhaq Peretz, who told them: We did not come to hear anything new, but to remind you of old matters. Shamir promised the SHAS leaders that the Likud would support them — meaning, of course, support them in their demand for the religious affairs portfolio, or alternatively, the interior affairs portfolio. It should be recalled that the National Relgious Party is demanding these same portfolios. Minister Burg told Rabbi Peretz this morning: We are still adamant in our demand for the two portfolios. But Rabbi Peretz termed the conversation leisurely, as among scholars.

Court Cancels 116 Air Afrique Workers' Contracts

AB311402 Paris AFP in English 1257 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Abidjan, Oct 31 (AFP) — An industrial relations court here today ordered the cancellation of the contracts of 116 striking flight crew of the multinational airline Air Afrique, without notice or compensation.

The court found in favour of the management of the airline that the strikers had broken their contracts, but gave them 15 days to appeal against the decision. Defence sources said the appeal could be lodged later today.

The aircrew, of various nationalities, have been on strike for the last seven weeks to pursue a number of demands, which the management said went against a plan to save the financially stricken airline.

Lawyers for the strikers had contested the tribunal's competence to hear the case, given that for many of the aircrew their place of work and residence lay outside the Ivory Coast.

But the management retorted that Air Afrique, owned jointly by Benin, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Ivory Coast, Mauritania, Senegal, and Togo, was based in Ivory Coast.

A legal source said that the ruling of the court amounted to the dismissal of the personnel for serious offences, but did not exclude the negotiation of new contracts on different terms.

Air Afrique, which has got by through hiring aircraft from other companies, is facing serious financial problems. It wants to cut salaries, prune staff, and remove certain perquisites for its employees.

PANA on Agency's Diversification, Training Programs

AB301320 Lagos NAN in English 0830 GMT 30 Oct 84

[Text] New York, Oct 29 (NAN) — The special adviser to the PAN-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY (PANA), Prof Alfred Opubor, has said that the agency is now averaging 20,000 to 25,000 words a day, as compared to the 10,000 words a day at its inception about 18 months ago.

In an interview with the New York correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) on Friday, Prof Opubor stated that PANA had now diversified into other areas of news coverage apart from politics. He listed these as economics, nutrition, forestry, agriculture, women, science, and technology. Prof Opubor remarked that PANA had embarked on a training program for journalists which was one of its main functions.

He said that this year, the agency had concluded two workshops on the reporting of science and technology, which were funded by the Canadian International Development Centre. As part of PANA's training program, Prof Opubor said that the agency would hold a meeting at its headquarters this week which would concentrate on the question of how to report drought and food scarcity in Africa. This is in preparation for a PANA workshop early next year for African media leaders and news agency journalists, he said.

Prof Opubor explained that PANA was not independent and was not intended to be because it was set up to state the African point of view. PANA tends to put together what the various African countries are thinking. As you know, African countries differ on a number of issues. PANA tends to show that differences in opinion do exist, he explained.

Asked when PANA would start the recruitment of its permanent staff, Prof Opubor replied: We have set the recruitment process in motion. We intend to start early next year, but we are not going to recruit massively because we still have financial problems.

ALGERIA

IRNA: Besharati Arrives for Celebrations

LD311057 Tehran IRNA in English 0905 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Algiers, Oct. 31, IRNA — The acting [as received] foreign minister, 'Ali Mohammad Besharati, heading a delegation arrived here Tuesday afternoon and was welcomed by the Algerian Minister of Planning and Regional Development Abdelhamid Brahimi [title as received] and several other officials. The Iranian official is in Algiers to attend the celebrations marking to 30th anniversary of Algerian revolution, Nov. 1. Meanwhile Besharati is scheduled to hold talks with several Algerian officials on issues of mutual interest.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Regrets World's Loss of Gandhi

LD311521 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Excerpt] Upon learning of the death of Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi, the brother leader of the revolution expressed his deep regret and great emotion. The brother leader said that, with the death of Indira Gandhi, the world has lost an eminent personality who had weight in international politics and the Nonaligned Movement, one of its outstanding leaders, and India has lost with her a personality that had a decisive effect on the unity of the Indian peoples.

The leader adds that although this incident comes in the context of nationalist and religious strife in the Indian subcontinent — a strife that plays a basic role in history and defines the map of the world — and irrespective of the nature of these religious and nationalist factors and the rights of those who advocate them, this act has led to a great loss — the world's loss of Indira Gandhi.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Palestinian Leaders

LD311101 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Tripoli, 31 Oct (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution yesterday received a delegation of the Palestinian national alliance consisting of brothers Abu Musa, member of the new Fatah revolutionary leadership; Ahmad Jibril, secretary general of the PFLP-General Command; and Dr Samir Gusha, secretary general of the Palestinian People's Struggle Front.

Support Units Withdrawn From Faya Fada

LD311612 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1555 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Tripoli, 31 Oct — JANA Has learned that the remaining elements of the Libyan support to the GUNT have been withdrawn from Faya and Fada today.

MAURITANIA

President Sends Condolences to Indian Counterpart

LD010049 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Lieutenant Colonel Mohammad Khouna Ould Haydallah, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state, sent a cable of condolences this morning to Indian President Zail Singh following the assassination of Mrs Indira Gandhi. The cable reads:

I received the news of the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi with profound sorrow. On this sad occasion, I convey to you on behalf of the Mauritanian people and their Military Committee of National Salvation, on behalf of my government, and on my own behalf, our sincere condolences. I also offer to the friendly Indian Government and people and to the family of the deceased our sympathy and condolences.

History will preserve the leading role played by Indira Gandhi in laying down the foundation of democracy in India and the great work she performed within the framework of the nonaligned group of nations, which she periodically presided over with utmost sincerity, wisdom, and sacrifice.

Indira Gandhi worked hard to ensure harmony for the nonaligned countries to help overcome the various chronic international problems, out of her belief in the principles laid down by her father Nehru, the great founder of the Nonalignment Movement.

MOROCCO

Briefs

Trade Agreement With Albania — The signing took place today at the premises of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism of an agreement for trade cooperation between the Moroccan Kingdom and the People's Socialist Republic of Albania. For the Moroccan side, the agreement was signed by the Minister of Trade, Industry, and Tourism Azeddine Guessous and for the Albanian side by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade Ajazi Pajtim, in the presence of the delegations of both countries. Geussous delivered a speech pointing out the importance of the agreement as a new landmark on the road of trade relations between the two countries. [Text] [*Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 30 Oct 84 LD*]

SUDAN

Al-Tayyib, Security Council Review Security Situation

JN311816 Khartoum SUNA in English 1752 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Khartoum, Oct. 31 (SUNA) — The National Security Council today held a meeting chaired by First Vice President 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib to discuss the security situation in the country following the discovery of plots aimed at destabilizing

peace and security in the country. The meeting was [word indistinct] on the investigations currently undertaken by the security authorities and the suitable measures that have been taken to safeguard the internal front.

The council hailed the vigilance and steadiness of the Peoples Armed Forces and the Regular Forces, urging all the citizens to keep vigilance and caution towards the continuous conspiracies against the country.

The council [word indistinct] issued statement unveiling a criminal racial plot led by Philip 'Abbas Ghabbush aiming at destabilizing security in the country, particularly in the national capital, as a preparation to a foreign interference.

Numayri Cables Condolences to Indian President

JN011129 Khartoum SUNA in English 1105 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Khartoum, Safar 8, Nov 1, (SUNA) — The President of the Republic Ja'far Numayri condemned the assassination of [the] Indian prime minister and branded it as a formidable crime. The president expressed sorrow over the assassination of Mrs Gandhi, whom he described as one of the most outstanding leaders in the Third World and the Nonaligned Movement. President Numayri's praise was made in a cable of condolences which he sent for the Indian President Zail Singh today.

TUNISIA

Bourguiba Leaves for Algerian Celebrations

LD311158 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1000 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Tunis, 31 Oct (TAP) — President Habib Bourguiba and his wife left Tunis this morning for Algiers to join the brotherly Algerian people in the marking of the 30th anniversary of their glorious revolution. The great combatant is accompanied by an important delegation.

Prime Minister Comments Arab Summit Prospects

PM300931 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 28 Oct 84 p 1

[Amin Muhammad Amin report: "Mzali to *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*: Current Problems and Disputes Impede Arab Summit"]

[Text] Gulf Bureau — Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali has stated that he is inclined to be pessimitic about the possibility of convening an Arab summit conference, because of the numerous contradictions within the Arab arena at present. He added that for over a year now he has been urging that an Arab summit conference be held without delay and that Arab differences be ironed out, because Arab unity is better than disagreement. Therefore, we should seek to overcome the current problems. He emphasized that it would be difficult to convene an Arab summit conference in the present circumstances.

In a statement to *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* the Tunisian prime minister denied that the Palestinian leadership has asked Tunisia to host the PNC session. He said: Our principles are still the same. We support the Palestinian revolution and do not interfere in its affairs; we act just as we did when we accommodated the Algerian leadership for 8 years. We never interfered in their affairs, and God ultimately gave them victory and the Algerian people achieved independence. He said that the Tunisian attitude stems from the principles inspired by President Bourguiba's policy. He called on the Arab nation to help support the Palestinian revolution with all its resources and capabilities and enable the revolution to achieve its objectives.

He said that his visit to the East Asian states was positive and successful, adding that the effects and results of that visit will soon be reflected in the various aspects of bilateral and trilateral cooperation as a result of the agreements signed for the establishment of joint companies and projects.

He also said that his lightning visit to Bahrain and Kuwait for the purpose of holding consultations with his brother officials there on current and international issues will strengthen bilateral cooperation between his country and Bahrain and Kuwait.

Mzali and his delegation left Kuwait for Tunisia at 1400 yesterday.

WESTERN SAHARA

APS: Spanish Minister's Morocco Visit Denounced

LD010958 Algiers APS in Arabic 0800 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Excerpt] SDAR, 1 Nov (APS) — The Saharan Ministry of Culture and Information published a statement yesterday morning in which it denounced the Spanish defense minister's visit to Morocco, which began yesterday. In this respect, the statement recalled the circumstances under which the Western Sahara was occupied by the Moroccan Armed Forces with the assistance of the Spanish Army, a colonial army at the time.

The statement added that the Spanish minister's visit to Morocco comes precisely 9 years after the start of the Moroccan invasion; in other words, a few days after the colonial forces, Spain, surrounded [as received] El Aaiun, Dakhla, and Semara.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Sends Condolences to Indian President

EA312117 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE], chairman of the PMAC and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, today sent a message of condolence to the Indian president, Mr Zail Singh, expressing his deep grief over the sudden death of the Indian prime minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi.

In his message of condolence, our comrade revolutionary leader stated that the people of India have lost a great political personality owing to the death of Mrs Indira Gandhi. He pointed out that Mrs Gandhi's death will be strongly felt in the Nonaligned Movement, in which she loyally followed the footsteps of her father, Jawaral Nehru, who was one of the founders of the movement and the first prime minister of India.

In his message, our comrade revolutionary leader pointed out that Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was much liked by the Ethiopian people and expressed deep grief on behalf of the WPE, the Government and people of Ethiopia, and on his own behalf, to President Zail Singh, and through him to the people and Government of the Indian Republic and to the family of the deceased.

Bulgaria Approves Drought Relief Aid

EA312351 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] It was stated today that the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria has approved aid worth 125 million birr to assist efforts underway to help our compatriots hit by drought and to settle them permanently. This was disclosed by Comrade (?Georgi Petrov Kusov), Bulgarian ambassador to Ethiopia, when he gave details of the aid to Comrade Habte Mariam Ayenachew, deputy commissioner of the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission [RRC], at the RRC office.

The comrade ambassador stated that the People's Republic of Bulgaria will give aid of 12,000 metric tons of wheat, 5000 tons of flour, 660 tons of various foods, and medicines worth 1 million birr. He added that apart from this, the Bulgarian Government will give 10 transport vehicles, 12 tractors, 12 transport trailers and 4 (? bulldozers), 100 water pumps, 5,000 blankets, and 50 tons of various materials. Comrade Ambassador (?Kusov) said that the Bulgarian Government has approved two transport aircraft and two helicopters including their pilots to help transport the food aid and material to drought-hit areas. The comrade ambassador disclosed that the aid approved by the Bulgarian Republic will begin to arrive next week and will be completed in the next 3 months.

In his speech on the occasion, Comrade Habte Mariam Ayenachew affirmed that the aid given by the People's Republic of Bulgaria will be properly allocated to our suffering compatriots.

KENYA

President Cables Condolences to India

LD311605 Nairobi KNA in English 1130 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Nairobi, Oct 31 (KNA) — His excellency the president, Hon Daniel arap Moi, has sent a message of condolences to the president of India, H.E. Mr Giami Zail Singh, following the death of the late Mrs Indira Gandhi. The president's message stated:

It is with great shock and deep sadness that I have learnt of the sudden and untimely death of the prime minister of the Republic of India, H.E. Mrs Indira Gandhi, who was also head of the Indian Government.

We in Kenya remember the role she played in putting the nonalinged conference along the right track. We also remember Mrs Gandhi's able manner in which she steered the work of the conference of the Commonwealth heads of state and government held in India last year.

Mrs Gandhi's concern for the situation in Southern Africa impressed all of us from the Commonwealth who worked with her during the time she was prime minister of India. Her passing away has robbed the Third World [of] a leader who has done a lot for the lives of many peoples.

Relations between Kenya and India have grown tremendously over [the] years in all fields. India has been a close friend of Kenya, and India's investments in Kenya have grown over the years. We in Kenya are very grateful for the role India has played in assisting us in the fields of education, culture, and trade with Kenya and I have no words to express my gratitude for the role the late prime minister played in these fields. [sentence as received]

At this time of sadness and sorrow, we stand with [the] people of India in mourning the passing away of the late Mrs Gandhi. Please convey my heartfelt condolences, and those of the Government and people of Kenya to the bereaved family and the people of India.

May the Almighty God rest her soul in eternal peace.

SOMALIA

President Expresses Sorrow Over Gandhi's Death

EA311615 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, the president of the Somali Democratic Republic, today sent a message of condolences to His Excellency Zail Singh, the President of India, expressing sorrow at the shocking death today of Prime Minister of India Mrs Indira Gandhi. Challe Mohamed Siad Barre in his message said: On behalf of the Somali Government and people and on my own behalf, I send this condolence message to you and the family of Indira Gandhi expressing our deep grief at her death.

The president described Mrs Indira Gandhi as one of the most active members playing a major role in the Nonaligned Movement. Mrs Gandhi's death will be greatly felt by the nonaligned countries.

Radio Halgan: Rebel Leader Silanyo's 'Address'
EA312055 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 30 Oct 84

["Address to the Somali people" by Ahmed Mohamed Silanyo, leader of the Somali National Movement [SNM]; time and place not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] Today, I would like to give a short address to the Somali people, an address on the people's struggle against the current fascist regime in our country, which we could also term the regime which murders women and children.

Before I go into much detail, I would like to comment on the current struggle being waged by the fighters against the system which the international media has widely publicized. This struggle, a protracted one, took on a new dimension during the run-up to the celebrations of the so-called October Revolution. Aware of the attacks to be launched against it, the regime decided to take preemptive steps to destroy of these events. They planned to wipe out the SNM fighters in some of the battle zones. It is well known that many of their troops have been wiped out in several attacks since 17 October in which many troops were mobilized. You know the fate of their weapons and ammunition. Many people were killed. While we are saddened by the death of any Somali, whatever his stand, the responsibility lies with the regime.

You must also be aware that for a long time killings, imprisonments, and arrests have been the order of the day in some regions of the country. You know that recently innocent schoolchildren were sentenced to death as is customary with the regime from which even shaykhs, school children, innocent women, and children cannot escape. The fighting is going on heavily today with fierce determination in the northern regions. The SNM fighters have taken the lead in this fighting. The international media are also highlighting it. You are aware that there is a curfew imposed on the town of Hargeisa today. The people who live there know it and other Somalis are aware of it.

Latest reports from the forces say that officers and many of the regime's soldiers have defected to the SNM forces battling there. In one incident, it is reported that up to 180 armed men, along with their officers, joined the present struggle just this week. In another area, more than 30 armed men with their officers and weapons, have joined the ranks of the SNM. Many places have been bombed and the fighting is going on bitterly. Of course, there will always be deaths in battles, although we regret any deaths from any side. The hero who led the break in and release of prisoners from Mandera Prison in early 1982, Mohamed Hash, has died. May god rest his soul. We all know that he was a well-known Somali patriot, sincere in the justified struggle.

On 21 October the ruling clique there celebrated the 15th anniversary of the revolution which deviated from its path, the revolution which broke out in 1969 and which turned into a cannibal. Let us look at the speech made on that day. They spoke of the release of 4,000 prisoners on that occasion. During such a period, and on many other occasions, we always hear about people who have been pardoned. The first thing that occurs to the person listening to such a statement, be he a Somali or a foreigner, is not only surprise but astonishment at the number. He says: If 4,000 people have been freed, I wonder what number still languish in prison?

Recently when Mohamed Siad Barre went to Hargeisa, he proclaimed an amnesty for 800 people in 1 day. If one town has that many prisoners to be pardoned, one wonders how many others are in prison in the rest of the country. These pardons come not only once, but twice or even three times in a single year. One then begins to think: Who are these people in prison? How are they faring?

To make matters worse, every time you hear that such a vast number has been freed, the well-known political prisoners, the shaykhs, the prominent businessmen, the intellectuals, the students languishing in prison are never included. Of course, one then realizes that petty criminals, those accused of abusing Siad, of staring at the militia, and vagrants are the kind of people who are pardoned.

These people have been imprisoned because of qat. Hasn't qat officially been banned? The truth is that qat has not been banned but has been transferred from the hands of the poor people dependent on it, to the hands of the Somali Government forces and to Siad's cronies and family and the rich. The poor have instead been killed or imprisoned. We all know that the mobilized land rovers and small cars are only used for qat business. Qat has only been transferred to people who have thrived from it.

Can these pardons therefore be called a release of political prisoners. Leaders like Isma'il 'Ali Abokor, Umar Arteh, Umar Haji, Uthman Jelleh, Mohamed Shaykh -- not counting others who died in prison such as Warsamch (Chuquf), and others such as the many students and schoolchildren who started demonstrations in Benadir still in prison. One should have heard about their release. These numbers keep on increasing. It is estimated that more than 100,000 Somali people from various strata are languishing in prison, although such prison sentences are passed secretly. The media are unaware of them, the world is unaware of them, international organizations such as those who fight for human rights are not even allowed to put their feet inside Somalia.

These figures are current. Let us look at the number of people put in prison for periods of between 24 hours to 48 hours. Out of the somali population of 5 million people, it is said that 3 million of these have at one time or other tasted prison life. There is a saying in Mogadishu that prison is like catching the flu.

These days, the radio puts emphasis on the economy. There is a call to restructure and rehabilitate the economy. I wish I had more time to comment on this subject. But it is enough to pose this question: What has caused the destruction or the bleakness of the economy?

It is unfortunate that the so-called president said: We have now allowed farmers to sell whatever they produce to boost production.

Is that not a derisory statement meaning he is beginning to bear responsibility for the 15 years of rule in which farmers were not allowed to produce and sell their produce? Are the people who could have worked in the fields not having their heads shaved to fight in uncalled for wars? Who will farm and who will produce if the human resources have been diverted to camps, to militias; taken away, those with shaven heads, and told to defend something?

Now they say there are numerous refugees. Okay, we know the history of the refugees settled in camps. Haven't we experienced something similar. What remains of those who were resettled during the drought? The truth is nothing. What happened to the places of resettlement where not millions but billions were pumped into operating them. What happened to (Dujumah)? What happens at the milk factory? You know that all the milk factory does is dilute powdered milk. Any old woman could no the same with her powdered milk. The milk factory is a spurious one. The number of buildings on the streets that have ceased operations are countless. The debts owed by the Somali people run into billions of dollars which the Somali people will never be able to pay. What has it been used for?

It has been stolen. Where are the [word indistinct] using these funds, where are the factories, the banana plantations, and other projects which utilized these funds? Where is the economy they are proud of? Is it not the same one that has caused the suffering of people, the beginning of food aid? Is it not the same economy which has not produced agricultural produce but has caused us to live on rice, sphagetti, and wheat hand-outs from the world?

These are some of the aspects the Somali people are fighting and this is the reason there is a struggle by the Somali people. The regime talks about tribalism. [sentence indistinct] Who brought about tribalism? Who destroyed the people? Is your government not based on tribalism? Is tribalism not rule by your family and your cronies and a few who have become your hirelings? What more tribalism can there be?

Today the current regime begs arms from South Africa, a country the whole of mankind condemns. We know from recent reports that they recently went to some Arab countries saying we should respect Israel and that the Arab countries were annoyed by the suggestions. Are these not ridiculous things? Today when it became a life and death issue to hold on to power, South Africa and Israel and the like became lifelines to continue oppression. The president does not even hide from the people sayings like: I conquered with the gun and shall control by the gun. Is the government a people's one or is it his?

We call upon the Somali soldiers, wherever they may be, to join us in a united front. We do not like to see you dead. Neither do we like you killing us. We do not like fighting each other. Join the fight and give a hand to the forces when they come. Join them and start fighting. All people rebel and fight. Demonstrate and do all you can at your disposal. Dispel all fears. We know there is nothing Somalis cherish more, wherever they may be, than ridding themselves of this despotic rule.

It is unfortunate that everyone expects another to do his work for him. Students, whether in Kismayu, Baidoa, Bosasa, Zeila, Hargeisa, Burao, Bula Hawa, Beledweyn, we remind you that the students being killed for no justified reason are your brothers, just like you. It is students who begin demonstrations, but what surprises us is what those in the university are doing? What are the people in colleges doing? We call upon you to stand up. It is your future, your life. Fight the Hitlerite regime today. If we are afraid today, we shall get used to fear. Arise people. Fighters fight on. It is a jihad. The ones who have left us have a name in the history of Somalia.

Mohamed Siad Barre was among those shooting in the Bagahbur uprising. This was at the same time as the Somali Youth League Party was established [words indistinct]. The people cannot tolerate this any longer. It should not [words indistinct]

TANZANIA

Nyerere Sends Condolences to Indian President

EA312007 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1600 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] President Nyerere today expressed deep shock at the assassination early today of the prime minister of India, Mrs Indira Gandhi. In a message of condolences to President Zail Singh of India following the tragic death of Mrs Gandhi, Mwalimu said the people of the United Republic of Tanzania join the people of India in great grief at the death of Mrs Gandhi.

He said the people of India know how dedicated she was to the unity of the country, to the progress of its people, and in particular to the welfare of the poor. The president said the people of Tanzania recognized and acknowledged her as a friend of Africa as well as a devoted supporter of the liberation of the African Continent from colonialism and racism. Mwalimu commended the late Mrs Gandhi for her contribution to the struggle of the Third World for justice and peace. He said chairmanship of the Nonaligned Movement was a recognition of her abilities and the world's need of them, adding that the cause of world peace and justice has been dealt a heavy blow by this assassination.

The government has announced 7 days of mourning during which all flags will be at half-mast, following the death of the Indian prime minister, Mrs Gandhi.

The Tanzania *DAILY NEWS* and *UHURU* newspapers have published special editions on the assassination of Mrs Gandhi. In addition to news coverage of the tragic death of the Indian leader, the special editions of the two newspapers discussed the life of Mrs Gandhi and her great contribution to the unity and welfare of India, and to the strengthening of international peace and security, and Third World cooperation.

CHAD

French, Libyan Observers in Ndjamena, Bardai

AB311827 Paris AFP in French 1556 GMT 31 Oct 84

[By Bernard Loth]

[Text] Paris, 31 Oct (AFP) — French and Libyan observers in charge of monitoring French and Libyan military withdrawal from Chad, which is expected to end in principle by the middle of November, arrived on Tuesday in the extreme north of the country and in the area where the French soldiers of Operation Manta were stationed to begin their duties.

A team of six Libyan observers accompanied by six French observers arrived in Ndjamena on Tuesday. They were expected to begin on Wednesday the inspection of the various posts from which the French soldiers have withdrawn, that is Salal and Moussoro, to the north of the Chadian capital, Arada and Biltine to the northeast, and Abeche and Ati to the east of Ndjamena.

Since their departure Monday from the Ati district, the French forces now remain only in the Chadian capital. Their return to France is either by air from Ndjamena or from the Cameroonian harbor at Douala, some 1,100 kilometers south.

Meanwhile, another team of French and Libyan observers has gone to Bardai in the extreme north of Chad, the seat of Goukouni Oueddei's Transitional National Union Government (GUNT — armed opposition to President Hissein Habre). From there they are expected to go to Faya-Largeau and Fada, the two large palm groves in northern Chad where the number of Libyan and GUNT soldiers is considered to be particularly great.

The presence of the six French observers in northern Chad should finally make it possible to allay doubts about the actual withdrawal of Libyan troops from northern Chad. The French and Chadian Government have been in disagreement over the issue for several weeks now. While Paris has been asserting that there is no doubt about the Libyan withdrawal and that the withdrawal has been going on "in a rather normal manner," Ndjamena keeps repeating that the Libyan Army has failed to withdraw from its positions.

Just recently, the commander in chief of the Chadian National Armed Forces, Idriss Deby, stated that the Libyan troops were still present in full force at Fada, from where they are preparing an offensive against government positions at about 200 kilometers to the south. The Chadian ambassador to Paris, Allam-mi Ahmad, asserted — quoting GUNT military leaders who recently joined the Ndjamena Government — that instead of withdrawing, the Libyan troops have been hiding outside the districts.

The arrival of French observers in Bardai has come a few days after the announcement by the Ndjamena authorities that there have been GUNT inter-army clashes in Fada, which have left several dead and wounded. The GUNT has tried since then to minimize the incident by attributing it to a "group of anti-unitary agitators," and has blamed Hissein Habre's government for the failure of the inter-Chadian meeting in Brazzaville, which was aimed at paving the way for national reconciliation in Chad.

GUNT Claims Diplomatic Success at Brazzaville Meeting

AB312144 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Summary] "The delegation that represented the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] at the Brazzaville conference on Chad returned to Bardai on Monday." The spokesman of the delegation, Comrade Amadou Hamdou, who is GUNT representative in Brussels, took stock of this first meeting in the following statement:

[Begin Hamdou recording] The Brazzaville meeting was attended by all Chadian factions in compliance with the OAU resolution on Chad. The meeting was under the aegis of the People's Republic of Congo, which represented the OAU chairman and the General Secretariat.

"This means clearly that the Ndjamena group renounced any claim to legitimacy and legality and adhered to the compromise of the Lagos Accord. But on the 3d day of the deliberation, fresh instructions were conveyed to the FAN delegation by the Ndjamena master." By questioning the achievements of this preparatory meeting, the Ndjamena delegation exposed itself to disqualification and undoubtedly bears responsibility for the failure of the meeting. The Ndjamena group has rejected any "discussion on ways and means of consolidating peace and security in our country. So the Ndjamena delegation came to Brazzaville just to play to the gallery instead of discussing major issues of national reconciliation for which all Chadians hope." We took the opportunity of the meeting to promote unity. So the Brazzaville meeting "is a diplomatic success for us." [end recording]

"Adoum Yacoub, the secretary of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, has left for Algiers where he will represent our country at the festivities marking the anniversary of the Algerian revolution."

Liptako-Gourma Authority Summit Communique Issued

AB311245 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Final communique issued at the end of the third summit conference of heads of state of the Liptako-Gourma Integrated Development Authority held in Bamako on 29 October — read by announcer]

[Text] The heads of state of the Liptako-Gourma Authority, His Excellency Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution, president of Burkina Faso, and head of government; His Excellency General Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state of Niger; and His Excellency General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People [UDPM], head of government, and president of Mali, met on 29 October 1984 in Bamako under the chairmanship of His Excellency Gen Moussa Traore.

The heads of state examined the report of the 20th ordinary session of the Council of Ministers of the Liptako-Gourma Authority held in Bamako on 25 and 26 October 1984 and the state of the implementation of priority programs of action assigned to the headquarters of the authority by the previous conference of heads of state. They expressed satisfaction with the implementation of the priority program of action and the results of the activities of the management of the authority. They reaffirmed their common desire to continue their subregional cooperation to make the authority more dynamic through the continued support of governments of member states in order to attain their assigned objective of self-sufficiency in food and to take their subregion out of its present land-locked situation.

To this end, they recommended that the Council of Ministers actively pursue the development projects on river levels at Timbuktu in Mali, at Gaya in Niger, and on the tributaries of the Niger River in Burkinabe territory, for which a development scheme should be adopted by 15 December 1984 at the latest by the extraordinary meeting scheduled for that purpose.

Concerning communication infrastructures, the Dori-Tera-Niamey and the Yako-Ouahigouya-Koro-Bakasse-Bandjagara-Sevare roads and a telecommunications link between 19 towns of the Liptake-Gourma region are projected. Concerning railroads, the conference took note of the state of progress of the Ouagadougou-Tambao railroad project whose feasibility studies made by the UNDP [United Nations Development Program] were found to be satisfactory. They reaffirmed their total support for Burkina Faso to continue this project, which will be consolidated by the extension of the railroad to Ansongo in Mali and by the construction of the Dori-Tera-Niamey transversal road in Niger.

Concerning the holding of the conference of heads of state, they decided that the summits will be held every year outside the annual summits of the West African Economic Community and the Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement.

The council elected Capt Thomas Sankara, president of Burkina Faso, as current chairman of the conference of heads of states for a period of 2 years, while the minister of planning and development of Burkina Faso was elected current chairman of the Council of Ministers for the same period of time. The heads of state particularly congratulated Bakary Toure, director general of the Liptako-Gourma Integrated Development Authority, for his good management and his dynamism during his mandate.

The heads of state expressed satisfaction at the frank and mutual understanding which prevailed during their deliberations. The presidents of Burkina Faso and the Republic of Niger, as well as the delegations accompanying them, thanked the president of the Republic of Mali for the initiative he took in convening the meeting and also the Malian people and their UDPM Party for the warm and fraternal reception accorded them during their stay in the hospitable African land of Mali.

Issued in Bamako on 29 October 1984.

BURKINA

Talks Begin With Netherlands on Cooperation

AB312210 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Excerpts] This evening, Comrade Youssouf Ouedraogo, minister of planning and development, presided over the opening session of the Netherlands-Burkinabe meeting on bilateral cooperation. In his speech, the minister pointed out the excellent relations existing between the Netherlands and Burkina, and the fruitful talks which the authorities of the two countries held periodically:

[Begin Ouedraogo recording] I wish to express satisfaction over the understanding and support you have always demonstrated in efforts to improve the wellbeing of poor nations. At a time of increased egotism in the world and when the world economy is going through a profound crisis, your country has reaffirmed its commitment to increase public assistance to development efforts to a (?0.5) percent of the Kingdom's gross national product, in conformity to the objectives of the United Nations. [end recording]

Trial of Former Ivorian Minister To Be in Burkina

AB310750 Paris AFP in French 1858 GMT 30 Oct 84

[Text] Paris, 30 Oct (AFP) — Mohamed Diawara, former Ivorian minister of planning who has been arrested for misappropriation of funds from the West African Economic Community [CEAO], will face "the justice of the people," of Burkina Faso, the Burkinabe head of state Thomas Sankara disclosed.

"Burkina Faso justice will take care of him, and we thank friendly countries that have confidence in such justice, the people's justice," he stated in an interview on Tuesday to Radio France International. After his indictment by a Malian magistrate, Diawara was escorted on Monday to an undisclosed destination, following his hearing by the heads of state of the CEAO — Burkina Faso, Niger, Mauritania, Mali, and Senegal — who were meeting in Bamako for the 10th summit of the organization.

GHANA

Britain To Increase Financial, Food Aid

AB312151 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] The British minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Malcom Rifkin, has expressed admiration for the way in which Ghana has tackled her economic problems. According to him, the country has shown real fortitude in her difficult period. He said Britain recognizes the efforts being made and will respond by increasing her bilateral aid to Ghana.

Mr Rifkin made these observations when he held discussions with Mr Justice Daniel Francis Annan, a member of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] in London. Britain's aid to Ghana this year so far includes a 15 million pounds Export Credits Guarantee Department line of credit for capital equipment and pharmaceuticals.

Negotiations are currently far advanced for a much large line of credit for 1985. A British Government grant of 3 million pounds will also be used to improve output in the gold and timber sectors of the economy.

In addition, a substantial supply of rice is also to be delivered as food aid to the country.

New Structures for Armed Forces Food Production

AB311025 Accra Domestic Service in English 2145 GMT 30 Oct 84

[Text] The Ministry of Defense is introducing new structures in the Ghana Armed Forces to make the military more productive, especially in food production. To this end, directors for military farms and ex-servicemen resettlement affairs are to be appointed. Plans have also been made to recruit personnel into the Armed Forces to take up agriculture. This was announced by the forces commander, Major General Arnold Quainoo, when he addressed officers and men of the Armed Forces at the Air Force station in Takoradi yesterday to expiain the government's economic policy and program to them.

The force commander further disclosed that a 5-year program has been drawn up to make the Armed Forces self-sufficient in the production of yams, cassava, rice, maize, vegetables, and poultry to feed the service personnel.

He stressed that the program is not to turn the Armed Forces into food producers to feed the entire nation, but to cut down the cost of feeding the military.

General Quainoo again warned Ghanaians to stop making statements which tend to discredit the nation and subvert the economic recovery program. The force commander had earlier inspected a guard of honor formed by personnel of the Air Force and the 2d Batallion of infantry. He was accompanied by the commander of the 1st Brigade, Colonel Klutse.

IGP Orders Special Exercise To Retrieve Firearms

AB311005 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 30 Oct 84

[Text] The Inspector General of Police [IGP], Mr S.S. Omane, has ordered all regional, divisional, and unit commanders of the police service to conduct a special exercise to retrieve all firearms and ammunition from all personnel who are unlawfully keeping them. The order was contained in an address by the IGP to police personnel at Koforidua at the start of a 4-day visit to the eastern region yesterday.

Mr Omane noted that despite an earlier order from his office, some members of the service continue to ignore the regulation. He regretted that some senior officers do not exhibit confidence in enforcing directives and this has resulted in the indiscriminate use of firearms by police personnel. The IGP also stressed the need for discipline, smart turnout, cleanliness, as well as improvement in the relation with the public. He again warned against the unauthorized erection of checkpoints.

Commentator Pays Tribute to Indira Gandhi

AB311607 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Kojo Yanka commentary]

[Text] The sudden and sad news of the brutal murder of India's illustrious prime minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, should send shockwaves throughout the world. It is not just the loss of a woman fighter which is being mourned: The Third World has been made poorer by the callous assassination of the current head of the Nonaligned Movement.

At the age of 66, Mrs Indira Gandhi has not only made history by bouncing back into Indian politics, she has demonstrated a keen capability which the equality of men and women seeks to engender. During her two reigns in the annals of Indian history, Indira continued the tradition of a builder of internal self-reliance and independence in foreign politics. She will be remembered for building up a modern industrial infrastructure which has enabled India to keep pace with the spectacular scientific and technological advancement taking place in the world.

To Indira Gandhi, nonalignment was synonymous with freedom of thought and action and she proved beyond doubt that a nation can survive without any direct subservience or leaning on any superpower. Indira Gandhi was firmly opposed to the evil of imperialism, colonialism, racism, and all manifestations of foreign domination.

The internal crisis in India, compounded by diverse shades of religious commitments and beliefs added to a multiplicity of political contradictions, may have contributed to her sad death. Indira's death has exposed the specter which religious fanaticism, adventurism, and divisionism can bring on a peace-loving people.

May Indira Gandhi rest in peace. May her laudable efforts continue to strengthen the nationalist spirit of the Indian people and all Third World nations.

GUINEA

Colonel Conte Returns From CEAO Summit

AB311057 Conakry Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 30 Oct 84

[Excerpt] The head of state, Colonel Lansana Conte, returned to Conakry at 1530 this afternoon from Bamako, where he participated in the 10th summit of the West African Economic Community as an observer. He was welcomed at the Conakry-Gbessia International Airport by members of the Military Committee for National Redress, the government, the diplomatic and consular missions, as well as provincial and district authorities of Conakry.

Vieira Arrives for Army Anniversary Celebrations

AB010856 Conakry Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Excerpts] The president of the sister Republic of Guinea-Bissau, General Joao Bernardo Vieira Nino, arrived in Conakry this afternoon. He was met on arrival by President Lansana Conte, along with Prime Minister Colonel Diarra Traore, members of the Military Committee for National Redress and the government, and the diplomatic and consular missions accredited to Guinea.

Gen Joao Bernardo Vieira Nino is in the country to participate in festivities marking the 26th anniversary of the Guinean Army.

IVORY COAST

Houphouet Returns, Announces Council Meeting

AB010900 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 0800 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Excerpts] After a 2-month private visit to Europe, the head of state, President Houphouet-Boigny, returned to Abidjan yesterday accompanied by his wife. He was welcomed at the Port Bouet International Airport by Minister of State Auguste Denise, who acted for the president of the republic in his absence; Henri Konan Bedie, speaker of the National Assembly; Mamadou Coulibali, president of the Economic and Social Council; Alphonse Boni, president of the Supreme Court; members of the Political Bureau of the party as well as those of the government.

The head of state took the opportunity to announce that a National Council meeting will soon be held to take stock of our country's economic and social situation.

NIGERIA

Idiagbon To Lead Delegation to Gandhi Funeral

AB312204 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] The head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, has sent a message of condolence to the Indian president, Mr Zail Singh, on the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. In the message, Gen Buhari expressed shock and outrage at the assassination of the Indian leader and said that Nigeria abhors murder as a means of resolving internal social problems. The head of state urged the Indian authorities to spare no efforts in tracking down and bringing to justice the perpetrators of what he described as the most heinous crime. Gen Buhari offered the condolences of the government and people of Nigeria to the people of India and Mrs Indira Gandhi's family for the irreparable loss. He prayed that out of the sad loss would emerge a greater resolve on the part of the Indian people to forge ahead toward internal peace and harmony.

A high-level Nigerian delegation led by the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, has been named to represent the Federal Military Government at the funeral of Mrs Gandhi in New Dehli. The delegation, which includes the chief of Naval Staff, Commander Augustus Ikemore, and the minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, will deliver a special message of condolence from Gen Buhari to the Indian president.

Magoro Meets With Czechoslovak Envoy, Comments

AB311055 Lagos NAN in English 1000 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Lagos, Oct 30 (NAN) — The minister of internal affairs, Brigadier Muhammed Magoro, said in Lagos today that it was too early to assess the achievements of the Federal Military Government.

Speaking when the Czechoslovak ambassador to Nigeria, Mr Evzen Vacek, visited him in his office, Brig Magoro said that it took the last administration four years to ruin the nation's economy before the present administration took over. The minister said that the nation required Draconian measures to get over its problems, adding that the measures the administration had taken were long overdue and in the best interest of the country.

Brig Magoro commended the ambassador and the Government of Czechoslovakia for their support, saying that Nigeria would appreciate the cooperation of the international community in its efforts at revamping the country's economy. Mr Vacek assured the minister of his country's support for the Federal Military Government's policies to save Nigeria from economic disaster. My country is following with great interest the steps the Federal Military Government is taking to bring the economic situation to normalcy, he said.

Nigeria and Czechoslovakia established diplomatic relations in 1961.

Minister Calls for 'Exposing' Illegal Aliens

AB312011 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Nigerian immigration officers have been directed to monitor the movements of aliens in the country. They have also been asked to stem the influx of illegal immigrants into Nigeria. The directive was given by the minister for internal affairs, Brigadier

Mohammed Magoro, while addressing a conference of senior immigration officers in Calabar, Cross River State. The minister said in order to do their jobs effectively, immigration officers must demonstrate a sense of patriotism by exposing illegal aliens, denying them employment, and preventing them from smuggling out essential commodities from Nigeria.

Reagan 'Does Not Deserve To Be Reelected'
AB311000 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 31 Oct 84

[From the press review]

[Text] The *FINANCIAL PUNCH* comments on next week's presidential election in the United States. The paper, after examining the foreign policy of President Reagan, contends that he does not deserve to be reelected. The *FINANCIAL PUNCH* adds that a second term of office of President Reagan will mean greater entrenchment of racism in apartheid South Africa.

Renewed Fighting in Chad Said 'Imminent'
AB311205 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Ishola Dada commentary]

[Text] In the face of an ominous danger of renewed bloody fighting in Chad, a report from neighboring Congo-Brazzaville says the peace talks between Chad's warring factions has collapsed. And with this, another golden opportunity to give the war-weary people of Chad peace has once again eluded the Chadian leaders. This, in effect, has raised the possibility of a renewed hostility between the warring factions as soon as the withdrawal of French and Libyan troops is completed.

In fact, it was clear from the onset that the talks were doomed to failure due to the unrealistic and unyielding positions held by both sides to the fractricidal war in that central African country, which has never known peace for about two decades now. For example, the conference was beset right from the start with solving the problem of which of the two sides was the legitimate government in Chad: the one led by Hissein Habre in Ndjamena supported by France or the one led by Goukouni Oueddei based in northern Chad and obviously backed by Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's Libya. The acrimonious argument over who should speak first also helped to stall the talks. With the helpless people of Chad wandering and suffering, the factions are now smarting it out among themselves as to whose intransigence aborted the meeting, which had been expected to clear the way for a summit of leaders of the two main factions.

While this goes on, it is not quite clear whether the withdrawal of French and Libyan troops is really going ahead as planned. For one thing, Ndjamena has always questioned the sincerity of the Libyans to the withdrawal accord. For another, events seem to have lent credence to this claim when last week France announced the suspension of her troops' withdrawal following doubts as to whether Libya was keeping to her own side of the withdrawal bargain.

Assuming, nevertheless, that both sides are keeping to the withdrawal, which is due to end on the 9th day of November this year, the absence of a cease-fire between the two leading warring factions and the failure of the Brazzaville peace talks underscore the fact that renewed fighting is imminent in war-torn Chad. Unfortunately, the factions have already started to accuse each other of preparing an offensive against one another once the foreign troops are completely withdrawn from the country. The possibility of renewed fighting in Chad equally portends serious problems for the summit of the OAU heads of state scheduled to open in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on the 12th day of November.

An agreement between the factions in Brazzaville resulting in a cease-fire in Chad, coupled with the completion of the troops' withdrawal, would have given the OAU summit, which already has the Western Saharan debacle to contend with, a respite to concentrate on other important issues. Most unfortunately, however, it appears the problem of Chad will be with us for some time and that means the people of Chad will not know peace for some time to come. But this need not be so if the Chadian leaders are sincere in their claims that they are mainly concerned with the lots of the people and not their own and their foreign backers'.

Return to Talks Urged
AB311130 Lagos International Service in English 0930 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Viewpoint]

[Text] The people of Africa heaved a sigh of relief when they heard the announcement a few weeks ago that the Chadian factional leaders had accepted the call from various quarters to go once again to the conference table to resolve their country's crisis. Every hope was that, at long last, prospects for peace in Chad were getting bright, especially as the foreign meddlers in Chadian affairs had agreed to withdraw their interventionist forces. And so, as the factional leaders were preparing to send their delegates to the exploratory peace conference in the Congolese capital, Brazzaville, they were once more reminded that the success of the meeting depended on their demonstration of absolute goodwill rooted in patriotism and nationalism. They were told by the friends of their country that the only way to success was through the nonimposition of preconditions.

It is therefore most shocking that the Brazzaville conference was wrecked by the demand of the Ndjamena delegation that its own faction should be recognized as the true government of Chad. The whole world knew of course that the purpose of the Brazzaville talks was not recognition of one regime or another. That was absolutely irrelevant and the point was made clear to delegates by the host country.

One cannot but recall that some of the previous attempts at finding a peaceful solution to the Chadian crisis had similarly been wrecked by irrelevant, preposterous, and frivolous demands. A conference in Addis Ababa was made abortive by such a silly demand by one faction that the Chadian national flag be placed on its own side of the conference table. There is no doubt whatsoever that what remains lacking among some of these laying claim to the leadership of Chad is the patriotic fervor.

They are still placing premium on their personal desire for power to the detriment of the corporate existence of their country.

But the realities of the Chadian situation dictate that power can only be meaningfully and durably exercised through political accomodation of the factions. And such accomodation will come about if the factional leaders demonstrate enough patriotism and nationalism. The history of the Chadian crisis reveals that at least one of the former leaders, Mr Felix Malloum, set an example in patriotism when he agreed to step down from the presidency for others to take over. The momentous action was taken in Lagos at one of the peace conferences on Chad sponsored by Nigeria. It is those who took over the leadership of Chad from Felix Malloum that have ever since been engaged in the destructive struggle for personal supremacy. The clear lesson for them is to develop the courage and the patriotic view to tackle the problem of their country, which requires nothing but political accomodation. They will achieve that by returning to the conference table without any preconditions.

SENEGAL

President Returns, Comments on CEAO, ANAD Summits

AB301753 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 29 Oct 84

[Excerpts] The head of state returned from Bamako this afternoon after attending the 10th summit of the West African Economic Community [CEAO] and the 16th summit of the Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement [ANAD]. He was welcomed by Cabinet members and those of the National Assembly.

Our reporter (Dira Ndour) was present at the welcome ceremony and asked the president if, following the measures taken in Bamako to reorganize the CEAO, one can hope for a better management of the organization:

[Begin Diouf recording] The CEAO meeting was held in an atmosphere of frankness and solidarity. It was held in very good conditions and, as you have just pointed out, the main concern of the heads of state was to take rigorous measures to reorganize and to redress the CEAO management in general, its budget, and its financial position. The measures also concern the Solidarity and Intervention Fund for the Development of the Community [Fosidec]. You know that we have a very serious problem about an unfortunate and hazardous investment of the fund, as a result of which we cannot say today whether we will easily recover this money. In any case, the heads of state firmly handled the issue and necessary instructions to ensure that we recover the money as quickly as possible. To achieve this, we will use all legal means at our disposal. As I said earlier, the CEAO management was not in good shape and we gave strict instructions to improve the management. We removed a certain number of officials who were responsible for the bad management of the organization. For most of them, their removal coincided with the end of their mandate.

Despite the poor management and the issue of the hazardous investment of the Fosidec fund, we cannot say that the CEAO did not achieve any positive results. Generally, our set goals have been attained in the areas of community projects, as well as rural water supply projects currently being undertaken.

I want to inform you that we now have a seventh member country and it is the Republic of Benin. From documents made available to the heads of state, the People's Republic of Benin, formally called Dahomey, had signed the treaty of admission into the CEAO but did not ratify it. Having expressed its political desire to belong to the CEAO, it only needs to regularize this treaty it had signed by simply ratifying it. The second summit was that of the ANAD. The meeting was smooth. The documents were carefully prepared and the heads of state had no difficulty adopting the draft resolutions. Here also, we gave instructions for austerity and rigor in the management. [end recording]

ANGOLA

UNITA Spokesman Cited on 'Liberated Angola'

PM291457 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 24 Oct 84 p 5

[A.J. McIlroy report: "UNITA's State Within a State Is Cashless"]

[Text] The pro-Western UNITA guerilla movement in Angola is running a country within a country, and claims that the people under its control are happy "living without money." "The party provides, and people trade to find food and clothing and the necessities to survive," I was told at a meeting of the party leadership in Jamba, UNITA's capital in south-east Angola.

The movement has been fighting the Marxist MPLA government in Luanda, which it claims is backed by 35,000 Cubans, 3,500 Russians and 2,500 East Germans, since Angola won its independence from Portugal in 1975.

With a small, compact army of 20,000 well-trained and highly-disciplined troops, Dr Jonas Savimbi, leader of the Union for the Total Liberation of Angola, has secured a third of the country which is now "liberated Angola." A further expansive area of this vast African State is subject to widespread guerrilla activity which Unita says has put it more under Dr Savimbi's control than that of the MPLA. Moreover the UNITA special forces are carrying out sabotage operations against military and economic targets, including the blowing-up of bridges, within 30 miles of Luanda, the capital.

When I asked how UNITA functioned as a community and what currency was used by the large percentage of the country's 78 million population it effectively rules, the party spokesman said: "There is no money. What we do as a party is to provide our own needs through cottage industries. Materials reach us and supplies from our many friends in other parts of the world through South Africa, and we make the best use of everything we have received.

"Instead of money, people come to the party and their needs are met as much as the circumstances will allow, and according to strict assessment of family requirements. People are growing their own food, and there are chickens and cattle. If they wish to vary what they have, or get other needs, they simply barter and trade. It would be too complicated to try to work out a system of money. We could not create our own currency at this time and we would not want to tie it with neighbours like Zaire, Zambia or South Africa. And I think the result has made a large contribution to what we like to think is the genuine happiness of our people.

"It may be that when we are in government in Luanda — as surely we must be one day and not too long distant — we will be sorry to have to be part of society where money counts so much. After all, money isn't a guarantee of happiness," he said.

I travelled extensively in UNITA-held territory for more than two weeks. I saw a happy, spirited bush people. I visited a logistical centre 120 miles west of Jamba where thatched warehouses are filled with clothes, food, garden implements, salt, and all the basic needs of life. Much was already stacked for loading on party vehicles for distribution to villages up to 500 miles and more distant. There is a similar resourcefulness over arming UNITA's forces, and more than half of the weapons used are captured.

BOTSWANA

Masire Message on Death of Indira Gandhi

MB311507 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1125 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Message from President Dr Quett Masire on death of Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi]

[Text] I have learned with shock of the untimely death of Her Excellency Indira Gandhi. Please accept the heartfelt condolences of the people and Government of Botswana and convey our sincerest sympathy to the family of the deceased.

The tragic death of Her Excellency Indira Gandhi has deprived the world of a great stateswoman and champion of peace. Indira Gandhi will be particularly remembered for her work and close cooperation with the Commonwealth and the Nonaligned Movement. It is unfortunate when great leaders lose their lives prematurely.

LESOTHO

Moshoeshoe, Jonathan Send Condolences to India

MB311433 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Motlotlegi Moshoeshoe II and the prime minister, the Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, have sent messages of condolences to President Zail Singh of India on the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, who was shot and later died in New Delhi this morning.

Motlotlegi has said that Basothos learned with deep sense of shock of the untimely death of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi from the assassin's bullets. He also said on his own behalf and on behalf of the government and people of Lesotho, he sends condolences to the people of India and the family of Premier Indira Gandhi. In his message, the prime minister says that the government and the people of Lesotho roundly condemn this barbaric act and trust that those responsible will not escape the long hand of law.

The prime minister has expressed the Lesotho Government's deep sorrow by the untimely death of this prime minister, whose clear voice and speeches will continue to ring out vibrantly throughout the Commonwealth and Nonaligned Conference halls a long time after she shall have departed from this world. The prime minister's message says that in her passing away, not only have the people of India lost a beloved leader and an outstanding statesman but the Commonwealth, Nonaligned countries, and the whole international community have lost.

MADAGASCAR

Ambassador to SFRY Presents Credentials

MB311550 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 1030 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Excerpt] Apolinaire Andriatsiafajato, our ambassador to Belgrade, presented his letters of credence to SFRY President Veselin Djuranovic on 8 October. On the occasion, Mr Andriatsiafajato spoke about the excellent relations existing between Yugoslavia and Madagascar and pointed out that it was the desire of the Malagasy Government to strengthen them further. He also thanked the Yugoslav authorities for their support to our effort to make the Indian Ocean a peaceful, demilitarized, and nuclear-free zone.

MALAWI

Banda Sends Condolences on Gandhi Death

MB311904 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] His excellency the life president, Ngwazi Dr Kamuzu Banda, has sent a message of condolences to President Zail Singh of India on the tragic and untimely death of Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi. Mrs Gandhi died in a New Delhi hospital early today of bullet wounds. In the condolence message, his excellency the life president said Mrs Gandhi was an embodiment of peace and justice and that her death was a grave and irreparable loss to the world. The life president said Mrs Gandhi worked tirelessly for her own people, world peace, and the Third World in particular.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Expresses Shock in Message to India

MB010752 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0400 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Samora Machel, chairman of the Frelimo Party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, has said that it was with deep consternation, shock, and indignation that the Standing Commission of the People's Assembly and the Council of Ministers and the Mozambican people had learned of the assassination of Mrs Indira Gandhi, Indian prime minister and chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, which took place yesterday morning.

In a message sent to the president of India, Giani Zail Singh, Marshal Samora Machel stresses that Mrs Indira Gandhi's death represents an irreparable loss to India and its people. In the message, President Samora Machel states, and we quote: She was a courageous and selfless and tireless fighter in the cause of unity of the Indian people, their welfare, and prosperity. End of quote. To the Mozambican people, the messages stresses, Indira Gandhi has always been an intransigent and unwavering proponent of the fight against oppression, humiliation, colonialism, discrimination, racism, and apartheid.

In Mozambique she earned the respect and esteem of the whole Mozambican people for the great role she played in revitalizing the centuries-old friendship and solidarity between the Mozambican and Indian peoples. With her death, says President Samora Machel's message, the Mozambican people have lost a distinguished friend, mother, and sister, whose efforts greatly contributed toward stimulating a multi-faceted, healthy, and fruitful cooperation between our two peoples and states.

President Samora Machel adds that with Indira Gandhi's tragic death, the Nonaligned Movement has lost one of its guides and one of its most dedicated militants, who has always been able to uphold and intransignetly defend the ideals of nonalignment and the anti-imperialist struggle.

Meanwhile, the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Mozambique has decreed 3 days of national mourning for Mrs Indira Gandhi, Indian prime minister and chairman of the Nonaligned Movement. During the national mourning period from zero hours 1 November to 2400 3 November, the flag will fly at halfmast throughout the national territory.

Soviet Envoy Discusses Expanded Economic Cooperation

MB312021 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Yuriy Sepeliov, the ambassador of the USSR in Maputo, today gave a press conference on the 67th anniversary of the Great October Revolution due on 7 November. The Soviet diplomat began with a historic review of the relations of cooperation and fraternal friendship between Mozambique and the USSR and pointed out that they were developing satisfactorily.

Yuriy Sepeliov said that economic cooperation between the two countries is mainly felt in the fields of metallurgy, [word indistinct], and construction as well as the fields of agriculture, health, and cadre training. The Soviet ambassador in Maputo revealed that his country will bring to Mozambique about $3 million in donations during the current year.

Over 130 ships were repaired at the floating dock acquired by our country from the USSR in 1982. The Soviet ambassador in Maputo, who provided this information, said that the repairs were carried out within the framework of cooperation between Mozambique and the USSR. He added that the ships belonged either to Mozambique, USSR joint enterprises, or foreign countries.

In the field of fishing, the Soviet ambassador said that in 1985 his country will supply Mozambique with a supplementary quantity of fish of about 9,000 tons. This quantity does not include the fish that the Soviet trawlers catch in Mozambique waters, which, as a whole, remains in Mozambique. According to the diplomat, this year his country has already supplied Mozambique with 7,500 tons of fish caught in various parts of the world. Yuriy Sepeliov also told national journalists that next year his country will provide Mozambique with small boats for fishing cooperatives.

Factory To Be Built in Beira

MB311546 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] An agricultural machinery, hoe, and spare parts factory will be built in Beira and should begin operating in May or June next year. The factory will be able to manufacture 6 to 8 million tons of agricultural machines per year, the USSR consul general in Beira said. A part of the equipment to build the factory, which is estimated at about $7 million, as well as the first group of Soviet experts are already in Beira. This project is in the framework of the implementation of the economic and technical cooperation program between Mozambique and the USSR.

Italian Delegation Departs After Visiting Dams

MB010759 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0400 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] An Italian delegation led by (Mario Rafaelli), assistant secretary of state for Africa, left Maputo for home yesterday after a 4-day visit to Mozambique. Speaking about the cooperation between his country and Mozambique, the Italian delegation's chief told AIM that there is goodwill on both sides and expressed his support for development of Southern Africa.

During his stay in Mozambique (Mario Rafaelli) visited the construction work of Corumana and Pequenos Libombos dams, where Italian technicians are working, to check on security conditions in the area. On this, the Italian official said that, we quote: There is much concern over the security problem on the part of the Mozambican Government. I myself had the opportunity of monitoring the situation on the ground. End of quote.

The Italian delegation visited our country to pave the way for the next meeting of the Mozambique-Italy joint commission to be held in 1985.

NAMIBIA

Meiring Announces Military Registration Centers

MB311426 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1250 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Windhoek, Oct 31, SAPA — The first centers of registration for military service for SWA/Namibia males between the ages of 17 and 54 were announced in Windhoek today by the officer commanding the SWA Territory Force [SWATF], Major General George Meiring. The registration would initially apply only to members of national reserve units.

Speaking at a news conference, General Meiring said the step was in line with the South African Defence Act of 1957. The legislation would shortly be extended to include all men between the ages of 17 years and 54 years in SWA/Namibia regardless of nationality. The first registration centers are the northern districts of Tsumeb, Grootfontein, Otavi, Outjo, and Outjiwarongo.

General Meiring said registration did not imply a definite call up, but was necessary at this stage for a military census of manpower in the territory. He warned that failure to register was a crime.

The proposed registration campaign for military service has provoked criticism in some political circles in Windhoek. Party spokesmen said the step would mean SWA/Namibians would have to fight against close relatives in SWAPO. "South-West Africa is in the process of becoming independent. Unfortunately, there are elements who are trying to prevent South-West Africa developing into a stable, democratic dispensation, and all attempts are being made to prevent this. The revolutionary struggle in South-West Africa has long been going on to prevent this development process," General Meiring said.

He said the South African Defence Force and the SWATF had to ensure that stability as well as law and order were maintained in the territory to afford political leaders sufficient time to fulfill their task "with deliberation and patience." He said the territory could not afford a large police force or a permanent army to guarantee its security, adding that partime forces would have to be called up more often as they were not sufficient. This, he said, culminated in financial losses and personal hardships. "In fact, a small group of inhabitants carry the greater responsibility of defence and protection, while the larger group is not involved, or was no longer involved."

MPC Threatens Unilateral Talks With RSA

MB311838 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1735 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Windhoek, Oct 31, SAPA — The Multi-Party Conference [MPc] has issued an ultimatum to SWAPO and other political parties — join forces with the MPC before December 31 and thrash out disputes or the MPC will go ahead and negotiate unilaterally with South Africa on SWA/Namibia's independence. South Africa has indicated in the past that it would give serious consideration to proposals by the MPC.

In a resolution announced at a media conference in Windhoek today, the MPC repeated an invitation to SWAPO and other political parties to join the MPC in forming a conference to discuss the SWA/Namibian dispute. "Response to this invitation will be awaited until December 31," the MPC said. If SWAPO and others failed to respond to the call, the MPC would "enter into negotiations with the SA Government to discuss the modalities and stages of granting independence to SWA/Namibia at the earliest possible date."

Appropriate steps would be taken to seek the support of the international community for the implementation of an independence process and the MPC would meet again on January 15 to review progress and "report to the people of SWA/Namibia on the steps envisaged to advance their independence." A copy of the resolution was sent to South Africa before the start of the Cape Verde talks today between the United States assistant secretary of state for Africa, Dr Chester Crocker, and South African officials.

MPC leaders told the media conference today they were particularly dissatisfied and concerned at the continued loss of lives in the SWA/Namibian bush war and the extended "bureaucratic rule" of the SA-appointed administrator-general, Dr W. van Niekerk. They also indicated that the MPC was not interested in being granted a form of interim government and would be satisfied with nothing less than independence, with or without international recognition in the immediate future.

SWA/Namibia could not wait indefinitely for the requirements of South Africa and SWAPO to be met before independence could be granted. "If the world can not accept that, then it is too bad," said the chairman of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance, Mr Dirk Mudge.

"South Africa says there can be no implementation of Resolution 435 until the Cuban soldiers leave Angola," said SWA National Party delegate, Mr Eben van Zijl.

On the other hand, SWAPO maintained there could be no cessation of hostilities until the United Nations independence blueprint for SWA/Namibia was implemented.

"SWAPO and South Africa could carry on this dispute for another decade," Mr van Zijl said. "The people of this country are entitled to tell South Africa or SWAPO... that we will not allow them to delay independence for this country any longer."

The MPC said national reconciliation was a prerequisite for peace and stability. To achieve that goal, the independence process as envisaged in Resolution 435 had to be reversed.

There was a need "to adopt a consitution for the independence of this country before submitting the manifestos of the defferent parties to the electorate for the exercise of their democratic right of choice," the MPC said in the preamble to its resolution.

Asked whether peace was possible without SWAPO's participation in the independence process, MPC leaders said if the fighting continued after independence the MPC would continue its peace efforts. They referred to Mozambique and Angola as specific examples where negotiations were initiated after independence to end hostilities.

SOUTH AFRICA

Botha Condemns Violence in Message on Gandhi

MB311422 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] In Pretoria, State President P.W. Botha has reacted to news of Mrs Gandhi's death. He said in a statement that he regretted the tragedy that has befallen India. Violence is not the answer to a country's problems, and never would be. President Botha said that on behalf of all the people of South Africa, and particularly South Africans of Indian origin, he is extending sincere sympathies to Mrs Gandhi's family and the government and people of India.

Foreign Ministry Silent on Talks With Crocker

MB311625 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1545 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Pretoria, Oct 31, SAPA — South African Foreign Affairs spokesmen in Pretoria today released no details of the talks on SWA/Namibian independence, which started on the Cape Verde Islands off the bulge of Africa between high-powered South African and United States delegations.

The talks between the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, and the U.S. under-secretary of state for African affairs, Dr Chester Crocker, started this morning and are understood to center on new offers by Angola on a withdrawal from its territory of an estimated 25,000 Cuban troops. The South African Government insists a Cuban withdrawal be agreed on before it is prepared to start implementing the United Nations Resolution 435 independence plan for SWA/Namibia.

An indication of the importance the South African Government attaches to this latest round in the seemingly endless series of negotiations on SWA/Namibian independence is that Mr Botha is accompanied by the minister of defence, General Magnus Malan, the administrator-general of SWA/Namibia, Dr Willie van Niekerk, and South Africa's ambassador to the United States, Dr Brand Fourie. No indication has been given from the South African side of how long the talks — which have given rise to cautious optimism among political observers for significant progress towards a settlement — are expected to last. Speculation has also been that Angolan Government negotiators, who met Dr Crocker's deputy, Mr Frank Wisner, in Luanda last week, will join in the discussions this week.

Angolans Not Taking Part in Talks

AB010850 Paris AFP in English 0739 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Praia, Cape Verde Islands, Nov 1 (AFP) — No Angolans are taking part in current U.S.-South African talks here on the future of Namibia, contrary to earlier reports, according to a reliable source. The talks between South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha and U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Chester Crocker, began Wednesday and are due to end today, the source said. The Portuguese news agency, ANOP, had said Angolan Interior Minister Alexandre "Kito" Rodrigues would attend the talks, on the island of Sal, 300 kms (180 miles) north of here. Cape Verde Foreign Minister Silvino da Luz was on Sal but not taking part in the meeting, informed sources said.

Police, Army Close Off Black Townships Again

Roadblocks at Sharpeville, Boipetong

MB010719 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Police told our Johannesburg news staff this morning that they have put up road blocks in the black townships of Sharpeville and Boipetong last night, and that all vehicles passing through the blocks had been searched. They said that the Defense Force

had again played a supporting role in the operation. The police said that the road blocks are not part of an extensive operation, but had only been aimed at preventing violence.

Sharpeville Operation Termed 'Small'

MB010926 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0846 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 1, SAPA — Ten days after a major task-force of police and SA Defence Force members searched four Vaal Triangle townships for people causing unrest, a combined force yesterday returned to the area.

However, an SAP spokesman in Pretoria, Liquetenant Henry Beck, said the "small force, which included very few SADF members, was not on the scale of Operation Palmiet, as people are making it out to be."

Defence Force members were used to man roadblocks, but were not involved in patroling the townships of Sharpeville, Sebokeng, Boipatong, and Bophelong. Lieutenant Beck said the "routine" patrol was the same as other SADF assisted operations carried out in black townships in the past. "The police are still maintaining a presence in the area, and the Army gives us assistance when it is needed," he said.

Vaal Triangle townships, as well as those in the East Rand and Eastern Cape, have been worst affected by ongoing flare-ups of crowd violence over the past two months. Lieutenant Beck said townships countrywide had been quiet since yesterday.

In the Eastern Cape township of Joza, a petrol bomb was hurled at the house of a police member, breaking a window but failing to ignite. Numerous "small" incidents were reported in New Brighton, also in the Eastern Cape, including one where 10 youths tried to set alight the Mathotlane secondary school. They fled when police arrived, Lieutenant Beck said.

Vehicles Searched, Troops on Guard

MB010723 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0600 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Police and troops have launched another combined operation in the Vaal Triangle. It is reported that police, assisted by Defense Force soldiers and police from the Orange Vaal Development Board, have sealed off Sharpeville and Boipetong in the second major search of Vaal townships in 10 days.

Police in combat gear have set up road blocks at all entrances and exits in the two townships and thoroughly searched all vehicles passing through. Troops have been standing on guard. Police headquarters in Pretoria confirmed that police are in Sharpeville and Boipetong, but said they are not involved in any special operation.

France Refuses Sanctuary for Durban Three

MB311149 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1048 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Durban, Oct 31, SAPA — France today refused a request for sanctuary made by the refugees in the British Consulate in Durban. Representatives of the refugees — Mr Archie Gumede, Mr Billy Mair, and Mr Paul David — received a message from the French Embassy turning down their request. According to Mr Zac Yacoob, Executive Committee member of the Natal Indian Congress, requests were made to four countries. The United States, Holland, and France have refused and only West Germany remains to reply.

The French message says the Government of France abhors apartheid and has recorded its stand publicly and at the United Nations. Mr J. Assueil, of the French Embassy, said France could not ask South African authorities for clemency as long as judicial procedure was in process. "As far as granting the right of diplomatic sanctuary, unfortunately, neither the international law principles nor the local situation permits this to be considered," Mr Assueil said.

British, Swiss Envoys Present Credentials

MB311009 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans
0830 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Britain's new ambassador to South Africa, Mr Patrick Moberley, and the new ambassador of Switzerland, Dr Jean Quinche, today presented their credentials to State President Mr P.W. Botha, at the state president's office in the Union Building. It was Botha's first such ceremony since he assumed the office of state president.

Joint Lesotho Water Project Study Resumes

MB301200 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 30 Oct 84

[Text] The feasibility study on the Lesotho Highlands Water Project has been set in motion again, now that political differences between South Africa and Lesotho have been ironed out. The two countries have appointed contractors to undertake the last phase of the study.

A spokesman for the South African Department of Water Affairs said an earlier phase of the study had shown that the project was economically, technically, and ecologically viable. Geological formations, the exact design of the project, and the final costs will now be examined. The last phase would probably completed in March 1986, and construction of the dam should begin by 1987. The first water to the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging [PWV] area could be expected by 1993, and the entire project should be completed by the year 2020. The spokesman said negotiations were being continued with the World Bank on financing the project. Last week the bank said it would make about 5 million rand available for the scheme. The project is being undertaken to solve the long-term water problems of the PWV area, and at present financial values it will cost about 995 million rand.

Border Issue Complicated by Zulu Divisions
MB010701 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] The Ingwavuma land issue has taken a new turn, with the KwaZulu Cabinet being informed that the Tembe tribe, which occupies part of the region, may consider breaking away from KwaZulu. The tribal leaders were to have held talks with Chief Gatsha Buthelezi and King Goodwill Zwelethini yesterday, but they failed to arrive at Ulundi for the meeting.

Chief Buthelezi has confirmed that he and the South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, discussed border questions last week, but that other matters received priority. Speaking at a news conference, he said that the Ingwavuma issue could have serious repercussions and that the Zulu king would not tolerate dvision among his people.

Official Urges Regional Investment Charter
MB010609 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] The director general of finance, Dr Joop de Lour, has urged the countries of Southern Africa to form themselves into an economic bloc and to consider drafting an investment charter. Dr de Lour told a conference in Johannesburg that such an idea could be embodied in an agreement or declaration of intent to the effect that each signatory would protect investments emanating from the others and would permit unobstructed repatriation of capital or earnings by the investor. He said that an investment charter would make it attractive for foreign investors to invest their funds in the subcontinent.

Commentary Cites 'Sour Grapes' Over Tutu Award
MB260923 Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 18 Oct 84 p 6

[Editorial: "Sour Grapes"]

[Text] The reaction from pro-government commentators and editors on Bishop Desmond Tutu's Nobel Peace award, has been in the whole predictable — if not downright hilarious. After almost all the world has showered Bishop Tutu with well deserved praise, there was a bit of vinegar or even acid reaction from these quarters. We actually think they are not so much against Bishop Tutu personally getting the award as much as the fact that South Africa considers itself to be smack in the dock.

A peace award for a man who has been fighting the vicious apartheid laws of this coutnry is, after all, an attack against that system. We are, parenthetically, frequently surprised by the sensitive nature of South African whites. We would have believed that they who are the perpetrators of so much institutionalised violence would be thick-skinned enough to take the rough with the smooth. So Bishop Tutu, in South Africa at any rate, is being called a man of violence, he is undeserving of such a prize and a whole lot of other unsavoury things which we do not wish to repeat.

But perhaps the most hilarious response was from Namibia. The DTA mouth-piece, *REPUBLIKEIN*, suggested that the DTA chairman, Mr Dirk Mudge, and other leaders of Namibia's Multi Party Conference (MPC) would have been more worthy of the prize than Bishop Tutu.

The paper says, among other extraordinary things, that: "Compared with genuine servants of peace, Bishop Tutu stands definitely behind many of our black leaders in SWA/Namibia."

We suppose black South Africans can simply sit back and regard the waves of resentment and even jealousy rage around them. With Bishop Tutu they now know that their cause is just. They know, whatever is said about violence and what not in the townships, that these things are a result of a system that is ingrained with institutionalised violence. South Africa must have felt pretty small and ridiculous after Bishop Tutu received the peace prize.

When Chief Albert Luthuli got the prize in 1960, there were some red faces in this country. But because Chief Luthuli was considered a somewhat sedate and almost carefully moderate leader, the wails of dismay were not as loud as now.

As for ourselves, with Alan Paton, we can only weep for this beloved country. We weep because when a citizen of this great country is honoured there is sour grapes, there is anger and even hate. Where the Nobel Peace Prize signifies peace and goodwill to all men, in South Africa it seems to fuel the racial flames.

Our knowledge of Bishop Tutu is that he is a man of immense courage, a man with puckish humour, a charisma that would even turn his worst enemy into a friend, a really great guy to have around even if you hate his guts.

Tutu Statement on Whites Disputed
MB291804 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 29 Oct 84

[Station Commentary: "The Futility of Violence"]

[Text] The time has come to consider the options available to this country for the resolution of its problems. It is mildly disturbing to note that the general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, Bishop Desmond Tutu, believes whites need the assurance that to use his words: We will not chase them into the sea.

In the South African context, there is no question of anyone being chased into the sea. In fact, any serious escalation of violence instigated by radical elements within and outside this country has no chance of overthrowing the government of the day. This is not only the conviction of South African security experts, but is substantiated by a multitude of foreign military strategists who have assessed the capacity of this country to avoid revolution internally and beat back aggressors from beyond her borders.

In a major study released in 1980, the London-based Institute for the Study of Conflict concluded that it was inconceivable that the South African Government would succumb to political vio-

lence, and it described as extremely dubious the ability of the ANC to bring about revolution in South Africa.

Recently, too, the well-known strategist of Stanford University, Mr (Lewis Gann), wrote in the journal *AFRICA REPORT* that hopes for a violent overthrow of South Africa belong to the realm of military phantasy. Indicating the depth of South Africa's military might, the Hoover Institute recently concluded: South Africa's military power is enhanced by substantial industrial and logistic infrastructure on a scale that has been attained no where else in Africa.

Theodore Roosevelt once said that power undirected by high purpose spells calamity, and high purpose by itself is utterly useless if the power to put it into effect is lacking.

South Africa, it is clear, has the power. The high purpose is to carve out through evolutionary processes and negotiation a comfortable niche for all the peoples in this heterogeneous country. There must be no hint of chasing anyone into the sea.

Commentary on U.S. Abstention on UN Apartheid Vote
MB261745 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 26 Oct 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Dr Perez de Cuellar, the secretary general of the United Nations, says the world body is ineffective and impotent. America's ambassador to the United Nations, Mrs Jean Kirkpatrick, has suggested the reason: the blantant hypocrisy and unconcern about the original ideals of the United Nations among member states, in whom the concept of democracy is not inherent because they have never known democracy.

Dr Henry Kissinger, when he was secretary of state, pointed to the most notable result. He said the high hopes Americans once held for the United Nations as the vehicle for peace and understanding among people have withered to almost nothing. America's most forthright politician and former UN ambassador, Mr Patrick Moynihan, summed it all up when he described the organization as a decomposing corpse.

Those are the views of people who still take the United Nations, at least as it was originally conceived, seriously. Their strong language is an expression of their concern about its abandonment of its ideals and its consequent loss of credibility as a peacekeeping organization. Their attitude is that of the idealist who still hopes to rescue something from the ruins.

It is no coincidence that the Untied States was the country that abstained from voting when presented with the extraordinary caricature of South Africa contained in a resolution debated by the Security Council this week. But in the cynical world of international politics, the idealists are a small minority.

For the West at large, the changed role of the United Nations, its loss of credibility as a peacekeeping organization, must be dealt with as just another fact of life that must be recognized in framing international policies and conducting diplomacy. No amout of hand-wringing can undo its takeover by the majority, which happens to comprise virtually the entire group of states in the world that reject democracy, that violate human rights on a massive scale, and seem incapable of improving their people's economic welfare.

That being the case, even the most civilized governments nowadays accept the United Nations for what it is: a talking-shop, a platform for ego boosting by governments through a pretense of espousing ideals that they flout daily in their own countries, and a useful nonviolent means of working off frustration and envy and identifying scapegoats for their own incompetence.

No purpose is served in pointing out that the United Nations is silent on virtually every war in progress in the world today — the Lebanese conflict, Afghanistan, Kampuchea, Central America, Chad, Cuban involvement in Africa, and so on. The majority in the United Nations no longer regards peacekeeping as its proper function. Naturally, they can hardly expect to be taken seriously, least of all by the countries they select as victims, as South Africa was selected this week.

Such countries are more likely to echo metaphorically the invitation last year by an American delegate to UN members to sail off into the sunset.

ANC's Tambo Sends Condolences on Gandhi Death
MB010726 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Excerpts] World leaders and organizations continue to condemn Mrs Gandhi's cold-blooded murder yesterday morning by her bodyguards. The ANC of South Africa has expressed shock and deep sorrow at the cowardly murder of the Indian prime minister. ANC President Oliver Tambo said in a message of condolences to President Zail Singh that Mrs Gandhi's death was a loss for the whole world.

SWAZILAND

Officials on Shake Up in Government, Army, Police
MB281000 Mbabane Television Service in Siswati 1745 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Statements by Prime Minister Prince Bhekimpi, Prince Mfanasibili, and Mndeni Tshabalala at a "chiefs' meeting" at Elusaseni Royal Residence on 27 Oct 1984 — live; monitored in progress]

[Text] [Bhekimpi] Someone had to act on behalf of the queen regent until the return of Makhosetive, if he actually did return. Some misdirection occurred in letting her assume the position of queen regent. The people who were now grumbling were the very people who were instrumental in appointing the queen regent to her current position. They were now contradicting their own previous words and actions.

Why all this turn about? What is causing them to shift from their previous positions? Is there a balance that needs adjusting inside this royal family? Why are the elders changing their tune? The two elders, namely Prince Sozisa [former authorized person] and Princess Mnengwase [member of the Liqoqo], were now critical, saying that it appeared that some misdirection had taken place in allowing the present queen regent to assume her position. Well, they were the ones who were instrumental in installing the present queen regent in her position. That is the second incident that occurred here, my fellow countrymen.

Finally, there was a move to approach the monarch with a document that she had to sign. So they prepared a document for the queen's signature. Upon presentation of the document to the queen regent, she stalled and refused to sign it in the absence of the Liqoqo. She declined to sign the document before only these two (Mnengwase and Sozisa). She advised that the council be summoned to witness the signature ceremony. These two insisted that she sign, as she had previously done for them. The queen regent was adamant in her refusal to append her signature to the document. Wow! All hell broke loose! A fire got started!

While this situation was becoming tense, there were threats directed at the monarch for her refusal to sign the document. They indicated that they were now on an irrevocable parting of ways with her. Even if there was bloodshed, they would not be to blame. It was then clear that the council had to arrive at a quick decision, that the four men suspected of connivance with the two royal personages must be removed from their government positions.

It had been reliably learned that they were behind all this furor. They were then accordingly removed. These were R.V. Dlamini, minister for foreign affairs; Sishayi [Nxumalo, minister for finance]; the commissioner of police; and the Army commander. It had been clearly noted that the prince had pinned all his hopes on these four men. Sure enough, on the day of the dismissal of these four men, we were lucky that there was no bloodshed in Swaziland. Perhaps we shall never witness bloodshed, since it did not occur on that day.

The Army was put on alert. Where was the Army going? It was out to seek those who stayed with the monarch. When the soldiers went to secure weapons of war, it was unfortunately discovered that the storekeeper of the armory did not have the keys. The keys were being kept at Phondvo royal residence What now? Without the keys there would be no weapons. Well, instructions were given that the man with the duplicate keys be found. They ran far and wide about this country looking for this soldier who had the duplicate keys. They even went to his family residence looking for this man. Confronted with this problem, instructions went out that the soldiers should pack their rifles and carry a lot of live ammunition. This plan did not work out.

Late in the afternoon they had a meeting with the police. All the senior police officers descended upon the police training college in Matsapa to work out an alternative strategy. The police wanted to know what had to be done in view of the fact that the soldiers did not have heavy artillery and some members of the Army had taken to their heels. The run-away soldiers had got wind of the fact that they were being misdirected and misused. They preferred to seek refuge in the bush and not take further instructions. The man with the keys was safely secreted away.

The police unit had not heard that the Army was no longer prepared to go on with this effort. It went ahead with the preparations for that night. Upon consideration of the facts that the Army was now missing and some of the soldiers were in a drunken state, the police unit became skeptical about any action, despite pleas from the plotters that the program proceed according to plan, no matter the deficiencies.

The whole business fizzled out as the police declined to move on alone. The police further elaborated that these plotters had been dismissed from government service, and thus they could no longer accept orders from them. The radio had carried the announcement of their dismissals and other people had been seconded to their posts. The police flatly refused to cooperate further with the plotters. That is how that insurgent action against the monarchy died a natural death.

The insurgent action was planned to replace the government with new personnel. Well, my countrymen, this is the type of incident that we believe it is necessary for you to be well acquainted with. Many of the princes and princesses were quite reluctant to have this royal residence of Elusaseni erected. They were well aware that its establishment would signal the end of all their plots.

Others were still saying openly that the dismissed queen regent, Dzeliwe, would be reinstated to her former position. She would return from Zombodze to assume authority, despite the fact that she was dismissed. They urged the people to keep quiet while they made all the preparations. They insisted that words of another queen regent besides Dzeliwe were null and void. They wanted Dzeliwe back.

If there is such talk in the country, can you believe and trust that the country will flourish? Can it really flourish? How can the ancestors support this type of behavior? Once dismissed you are out forever, in much the same fashion as a dead person. Prince Magongo used to serve here. That senior prince was dismissed for provoking unrest within the royal family. The elders did not waste time and dismissed him outright! Sozisa was then installed in his position, serving as a senior prince. Prince Magongo was guilty of misdirection and plotting. Well, here in LaZwide's household you cannot plot and connive anything. If you plot and connive, you dig your own grave!

Can people really keep quiet or lazily ask what is happening? The people entrusted with assisting the monarch in government matters have an obligation to put matters right whenever they see the situation going bad. If they overlook this obligation, there would be untold suffering in Somhlola's land. The late king entrusted them with a sacred mission to preserve the integrity of the kingdom. The king did not die intestate, he left a living will in the persons of those appointed to the council. He did not want the public to face the sad music of anarchy.

Would you people here have withstood the armed dissidents? I am certain that most of you would have taken to your heels and hid in the bush. However, those that were mandated by the king to serve the nation have resolutely stood against the opposition.

They have reaffirmed their determination to stand up for the truth, regardless of the criticisms. The council was mandated by the king.

There are those now who are saying they are unsure of what is happening. Well if you stayed here with the monarch, you would be better informed. Those who are expressing doubts are harboring their own secret designs. Those who are well informed will only follow what is being done right here at Elusaseni. What is being done takes place here. In short, my fellow princes, that is the way the story goes.

A short while ago, Princess Mnengwase fled to KwaZulu with a plea to that monarch that he provide them with assistance. She was on an errand for Prince Sozisa, who was complaining of mistreatment by the royal household in Swaziland. The Zulu monarch sent a delegation to the queen regent in Swaziland with a request that the complaining prince and princess be given an opportunity to air their grievances. The matter was discussed and it was finally concluded that the prince and the princess were erroneously misdirected. The delegation was then mandated to inform the Zulu monarch of the findings of the royal conclave. It was stated that despite their age, they exhibit symptoms that would set this country aflame!

In short, my fellow countrymen, in this world if you hope for survival you better follow the precepts of truth as dictated by the Almighty. The moment you veer from the truth, God will forsake you. You will discover that the nation will dislike you, and you will wonder as to what happened. The reason? You have deviated from the truth. If you stick to the truth in God's name, observing all the rules and courtesies of this monarchy, nobody will dismiss you from LaZwide's household. Dismissals only come after some violations requiring such action.

My fellow countrymen, I end my statement with these remarks. I do not want to delay the other men who are going to second my submissions. However, as the prime minister, I have an obligation to inform you of all the disquieting events I have witnessed. These incidents occurred before and today I am facing the same problem. Nkhosi!

[Mfanasibili] Greetings to you, the people of LaZwide. The previous speakers have already explained the subject of our assembly. There is an area that the prime minister has already covered that I will not repeat and cover the same ground. I will only clarify some facets of the matter so as to give you a complete, overall picture, because, as you all know, there are traps and pitfalls within our society. We must have a clear and precise picture.

As the matter proceeded, the queen regent summoned the officers of the Army for an audience. It had been heard that among the ranks of the Army some senior officers, about three in number, were conspiring to lauch a coup d'etat against the Kingdom of Swaziland. In response to these reports, the queen regent then summoned all the commissioned officers of the Army, approximately 70 officers. They assembled at Ka-Nyamazane royal residence and were instructed that beginning on that day — a day I cannot presently recall — they were not to accept any instructions or orders from the senior prince, prime minister, or the ministers, or anybody acting in their private capacity without official authorization.

The orders would only be given by the monarch. The queen regent said: The person who will give you instructions from me in the event I do not contact you in person, is Fonono Dube. Fonono is my messenger and you can act on what he tells you. There are no princes or princesses you have kowtow to. You are simply the soldiers of the monarch, completely. Thanks were given to the queen regent and the assembly dispersed.

On the following day the police were summoned. All commissioned officers, beginning with the commissioner of police right down to lowest rank in the force, were summoned to the royal residence. They were duly informed of the procedures, a repeat of what had been conveyed to the Army officers the previous day. In addition, it was stated that if and when the queen regent had to use a messenger to convey an order to the Royal Swaziland Police, Prince Bhekimpi would be the bearer of that message. Prince Bhekimpi alone would serve in that capacity. With the appearance of Prince Bhekimpi they would be able to authenticate any message purportedly from her. They were further instructed that beginning on that day they were to stop kowtowing to any princess or prince, minister, or any other unknown parties. They had to divorce themselves completely from any clandestine relationship not allowed by law.

After these orders had been given to the police and the royal princes, the royal princes defied the instructions and continued to have clandestine meetings with the police in their homes. The police definitely attended these clandestine meetings, contributing quite a bit to the discussions. My fellow countrymen, the incidents would not have occurred were it not for the fact that the royal command was definitely disregarded. People had already made their plans, the show had to go on. What I am explaining is how the police and the dissident princes and princesses got together. It is a fact that these dissidents did send word to the queen regent threatening bloodshed if the queen regent continued to refuse to comply with their request.

There was amazement at these threats. Where were we actually going? We were all wondering what type of behavior this was, especially when directed at the monarch. We had previously tried to discourage these royal princes and princesses, now they were threatening to use force! They were now going to wrest away the powers of the monarch. We really tried to avert an ugly situation that was threatening to overtake us. As a result of our efforts, the nation is still intact and the monarchy continues to thrive. Here is this royal residence, at Elusaseni.

It has been officially established. There are princes and men of the Kingdom who were ardently opposed to moving LaMatsebula's House from Lobamba to Elusaseni. Some of them are present at this very meeting we are attending today. They are here! However, since they have realized the direction which is being taken, there will be no need to open an inquiry as to their past behavior. All that is required now is their unswerving support to the royal cause. We never know, some may still be lying to us, cherishing some secret schemes in private. That type

of behavior is not welcome here. If there is some point you are not clear about, please make your enquiries at the council meetings.

If we were to relate all the incidents that have taken place, we would continue until tomorrow morning, all of tomorrow, and possibly a couple more days. We shall be brief. As we are talking right now, they have threatened to go underground. All that you will witness will be a lot of unaccounted deaths. One man dead each day. One man dead each day. This is what happens in other countries where lawlessness is rampant. The people who indulge in such practices are after power of authority. Power hungry people! There are those princes and princesses who are now in league with foreign nations right here in Swaziland. They have connived with these foreign powers and financial arrangements have been made to pay off the Swazi chiefs.

You all realize that people have been up and down the domain foulmouthing the conditions here in Swaziland. It is not just a question of Swazis alone involved in this plotting. There are governments of other countries which are now involved in this internal situation in Swaziland. While we are still at each others throats, the enemies are gaining ground against us. You wonder about the many dismissals since the king died. This is because the council that was mandated by the late king is forever alert and vigilant for any deviations from his majesty's expressed desires and will. We are very conversant with the language and procedures of the royal household. If you have deviated you stand out like a sore thumb! Then of course appropriate action is taken.

Just as the prime minister has already stated, the queen regent had unconditionaly pardoned all the political detainees, including royal persons and former government officials. This was only done after complete confessions had been extracted from these people. The monarch appointed a council to hear and review the confessions. These confessions revealed all the plans that were to be put into motion. The plans included hiring murderers to dispose of unwanted personnel. They all confessed and the confessions were taped with a recorder. We have this evidence. If the monarch one day decides to let you know more about this evidence, she will play the voice cassettes for you to listen. You will then get all the fine details of the plot. Why did they do this? Well they did it because they have their own choice as to who should become the next king of Swaziland. That king of theirs is not this one.

It was quite clear that during the tenure of LaShongwe, the dismissed former queen regent, the dissident faction had gained a stranglehold on her. The dissidents wanted her to use her royal prerogative to destroy the decisions that had been arrived at concerning the successor to King Sobhuza II. Makhosetive was not their choice. They had another candidate. It was then clear that rather than having the country sitting on edge, the first priority was to put an end to this dissidence and then inform the nation later when the situation had returned to normal. Now the dissidents are spreading a new gospel, querying the identity and character of the Liqoqo. They wonder what kind of people these are. First, they sacked the prime minister, Mabandla, then they dismissed Queen Regent Dzeliwe. What kind of people are these? No my fellow countrymen, no my fellow countrymen, the royal princes decided, and stated it verbally, that the powers of regency should revert to LaThwala, who would act on behalf of her son, Crown Prince Makhosetive. You were present when that decision was conveyed to you just outside Lobamba royal cattle byre.

After this decision had been aired and implemented, a flurry of court actions sprouted throughout the land. The prime minister, the Liqoqo, and the present queen regent were all defendants in the High Court. We were successful in averting a court ruling on that matter. How can foreigners decide as to who should be king? The foreigners are not conversant with the customs and culture of the Swazis. That effort was frustrated by the council. The law is quite clear that in the event of the death of Ingwenyama, or when the queen regent is incapacitated by illness, the council shall nominate a man who would sign on behalf of the monarch. The council then appointed Prince Sozisa to act in that capacity, when the queen regent was still undergoing cleansing ceremonies after the mourning period. The legal advisers pointed out that this understanding was insufficient by law, the monarch would have to sign the appropriate documents transferring this power to Prince Sozisa so that he could exercise these powers on a temporary basis.

It was the council that approached the queen regent regarding the signing of the powers of Prince Sozisa. Prince Sozisa was not present when the request was made to the queen regent. The queen regent obliged and signed the authorization at Phondvo, conferring the powers of royal signature upon Prince Sozisa temporarily, until the mourning period was over. This was done very smoothly and no one expressed any dissatisfaction. There were no complaints. Complaints from us only mushroomed upon the arrival of Prince Dumisa, our brother. The concerned prince and princess disappeared from the council meetings. They never showed up again. The council then just head that certain actions had been taken without keeping the council informed of what was taking place. Oh, gosh! What is happening now? The council is supposed to meet here at this royal residence. Now, where are all these decisions coming from without the concurrence of the council? I believe the queen regent did take steps to counsel the prince and princess.

That is the main reason why the council decided firmly that the signing powers conferred on Prince Sozisa on a temporary basis should now revert to their rightful holder, the monarch. Those of us who had requested that authority from the queen regent deemed it fit to return these powers to her without any further waste of time. These individuals who have been mentioned as the dissidents were not present when we went to request this authority of signature from the queen regent. Prince Sozisa was mandated by the council to act in that capacity. The dissidents were never present when these arrangements were put into motion. Again, when the time expired, it was Prince Sozisa and the council that went to the queen regent to hand over the powers of royal signature. The matter ended there.

Unknown to us, the plotters started afresh in their clandestine meetings, demanding that the queen let the powers remain with Sozisa. That is how 20 March came into focus again. The prime minister had already described the events of that day. On 19 March ... [change of thought] I better explain where the significance of this date originates from. The significance arises from the fact that the two royal personages spent 2 weeks in residence

at Phondvo, after the powers of siganture had reverted to the queen regent. They were still counselling and begging the queen regent to reconsider and return the authority of royal signature to them. The queen regent finally went along saying: Fine my royal prince and princess, go out and call the council so they can be witnesses to this ceremony on Monday, 19 March. She said this on a Friday. Well after the call, we all went to Phondvo. The queen regent was ready to meet the council on 19 March.

When the queen regent summoned the council for an audience with her, the concerned royalty indicated that they would not attend the audience if it included the Liqoqo, the government ministers, and some other royal princes. They wanted to be in there alone. I can really spill the beans now. We are at the moment of truth. These things are troublesome for the future. Prince Tsekwane, from Lavumisa, bade us farewell on that day, saying that he could not be party to any action that would deprive the monarch of her powers.

Tsekwane threatened not to return the following day. I am talking about someone who is still alive, not an ancestor from the dead. Prince Bhekimpi has already explained the events of 20 March. The Liqoqo is the council that is not wanted. The concerned royals simply stated that Liqoqo must be excluded from the ceremony. It was just the two of them that were entitled to the audience with the queen regent. Prince Bhekimpi, of Nkaba, was forced inside by Prince Mkhatshwa's remark that Bhekimpi was their grandfather, so he was entitled to know as an elder what was taking place. That is how he then brought a large retinue with him to Phodvo. Those of us who were in his company were not aware that we were going to be his assistants in defending the rights of the monarch.

My fellow countrymen, these are some of the things that need clarification for you, so that you who are in authority over the public, serving under the monarch, should know beyond a doubt what is taking place. There are many things that we are now sweeping under the rug, because they are disgraceful episodes which should not be aired in public. Please be on the alert. There is an animal that keeps cropping up. As soon as that animal strikes, you hear the person beginning to grumble. That is why we are keeping a close watch right here. For even myself, or anyone else, whenever the royal princes see that I am off the track, they will exercise their powers of dismissal.

This is not the strategy of the power-hungry people who want to usurp the powers of the monarch. They want to depend on the sharpness of their wits and are dead set against those who are alert for any mischief. The alert ones will be the first to be killed. All these firearms that have been mentioned here are meant for those alert ones. Even the planned coup d'etat that was attempted would have been launched against the alert ones, before doing away with the monarch. The main thrust was to destroy first those who were out to protect the monarch.

The public did inform us that hired killers would catch us in our homesteads to inform us of the change in government. Well you chiefs, you had better make it a habit to stay with your monarch. In the olden days, there always were resident chiefs at the monarch's kraal. No ordinary persons served as counsellors to the monarch. The ordinary people were used to perform the errands of the monarch. Hunger has made it impossible to renew that kind of set-up. In those days there was not a monetary economy. Well, despite these modern constraints, it is still advisable for chiefs to make it a habit to call in here, find out how things are, and leave as time permits. It would definitely hurt us if the chiefs did not show up here regularly. The council is faced with the problem and concern of how they will account for their actions.

There are people who want to abuse the authority given to them. The indvuna [Vusumuzi Bhembe, governor of Lobamba royal residence] was put on extended leave because we had already been informed that the dissidents wanted to use his personal authority to prevent the transfer of LaMatsebula's hut from Lobamba to Elusaseni. We pointed out to him that in the past he misused his authority by going overseas without the council's knowledge: You traveled with a medicine man; we do not know what you did; well, it has been said you will be used to frustrate the council's actions and wishes; we had better put you away in a place of safety where the dissidents will not be able to coerce you. The indvuna is quite used to the dissidents. There are other matters we cannot mention here item by item. All I have been trying to do is to explain certain dimensions. Thank you my fellow countrymen.

[Mndeni Shabalala] My fellow countrymen, I shall take this matter from where it began. As fully as I can remember this issue, I shall endeavour to give a full and detailed account of where it all started, who started it and why. My countrymen, the Supreme Council of State, Liqoqo, is a long standing institution, it is not a new idea or body. As I recall, we all used to meet at Lozitha with the late Chief Mandanda, and people like Sifunti. The chairman was one of the princes. The Liqoqo used to meet every Thursday. What seems to be a problem to many lately is that the members of this body have their names gazetted and are well known. The only difference from the past is that although the members of this council were known, their names were not gazetted.

Therefore, my countrymen, what I wish to explain is that in 1977, Prince Sozisa talked to us at Mthfongwaneni during the days of the renewal of the Tinkundla system. He appealed to us, as the king's messengers, not to forget when we return to the king — as it has become apparent that the king was streamlining the customs and traditions of the Swazi nation — that it is imperative to have this Privy Council. He is the only one in all of Swaziland who ever talked about this, in 1977. When we presented this matter to the King — I gave the report in the presence of the council — his reply was that the senior Prince was the true representative of the Swazi nation, and what he had said was indeed true. He is the authority on such matters.

When the first elections for the Tinkundla took place, the Liqoqo was already instituted and functional. Let me remind you of a time when the the king called Douglas Lukhele to read a speech on his behalf and he refused. The king then called on Polycarp, as the then minister of justice, to read the speech to the nation on his behalf. Polycarp obeyed the King. What the king said in the speech was that the Liqoqo would have to take an active role as the King's Council, because it appeared that there was no dissension within the nation. Now there were people who took it upon themseves to work against the monarch.

My fellow countrymen, in this speech that Polycarp read, the matter of the Liqoqo was the first point. The second was that the government be restructured to work in cohesively with the Tinkundlas, which are bodies appointed by the nation. Let me mention that we were fortunate to be part of the first parliament of the nation. It was this very parliament and the first government of Swaziland that found out that the only person or persons legally entitled to parliamentary immunity during the duration of the parliamentary session were Queen Elizabeth and the resident commissioner in Mbabane. Our king was, like the rest of us, not granted this immunity.

Yet, in all other countries of the world, the monarchy is granted this immunity, so is the government. When I say the monarchy, as I will remind you briefly, I include the chiefs in their own areas of jurisdiction. Remember that when the British constitution was repealed, there came into effect a law that stipulated that public meetings were banned, political parties were no longer lawful, and councils that confered under the trees should stop forthwith. Matters of state would, from then on, be discussed only at the cattle byre only, in Tinkundla meetings only.

When the Liqoqo was officially established in 1977, their immunity was overlooked. But the Liqoqo is the Supreme Council of State and is entitled to this immunity. This type of immunity does not protect members of the Liqoqo, per se, but it gives all of us immunity under the monarchy. This immunity means that as we speak here on behalf of the monarch we are immune from prosecution and cannot be apprehended for what we say. We have this blanket immunity that was introduced for our monarchy by our first parliament, which first discovered this glaring omission by the British. Here we are protected by this blanket immunity and no one can prosecute us. We are protected by the monarchy.

The Liqoqo now operates under this same immunity in matters of state. This what the recently gazetted amendment was all about — to grant the Liqoqo this immunity. This amendment works for all of us who are doing the work of the state. Be aware that when you take it upon yourself to interfere with the work of a messenger of the monarch, thinking that you are dealing with a mere nonentity, you are in breach of this immunity bestowed upon him under the monarchy.

Therefore, countrymen, be made immune and be grateful for it. Do not go listening to people who are rumor mongers, who want to buy your services for their own selfish purposes. Do not allow this, countrymen, for you are all adult and responsible men. And that is why you have been called here by the king to be told the truth, so that if, after you have been made free by the truth, you continue to work against the monarchy, you will have only yourself to blame. If there is anything you fail to understand, ask it at the proper place. You all know the right way to ask questions.

My countrymen, I do not want to overextend myself. There is still much I wish to say but there is not enough time, as there are others who have to say their piece. What I have said is the law of the Liqoqo, there is nothing new added. When you hear rumors that the monarch's power has been usurped — the Liqoqo has usurped the monarch's powers — know that it is not the truth. If you hear people in the street wagging their tongues, go to the proper authorities and find out the truth. No one's power is being usurped. What is happening is that monarchy has been given immunity so as to thwart the work of its enemies.

I myself know that without such a law, those who try to sabotage me, such as Mndeni Shabalala, may inadvertently be sabotaging the highest authority of the land, the monarchy, whose servant I am. Those who might want to prosecute or sue Mndeni for the pursuance of his duty find themselves prosecuting the monarchy instead. This amendment, my countrymen, is proper and just, and is merely a follow-up of laws that were in force in times past. What I am saying, my countrymen, is that if there is any among you who is still not satisfied with this explanation, we are here as servants of the monarchy, and you can come and ask for further clarification.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Expresses 'Horror' at Gandhi Killing

MB311907 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] His Excellency President Kaunda and other world leaders united in expressing their sorrow at the assassination today of Prime Minister Gandhi. She was gunned down in a hail of bullets outside her New Delhi home. President Kaunda, in his message of condolences to Indian President Zail Singh, expressed profound grief and horror at the barbarous assassination of Prime Minister Gandhi today.

Dr Kaunda says the killing was the most hideous way of ending the life of such an outstanding leader of world-renown who had worked tirelessly and selflessly for the higher quality of all the Indian people. The president said Mrs Gandhi was a great soldier for freedom, human dignity, international peace, and harmony. Dr Kaunda recalled that Mrs Gandhi played an outstanding role in the Nonaligned Movement and in the Commonwealth of nations, saying her death had robbed humanity of a friend. He conveyed Zambia's condolences to the bereaved family and people of India through Mr Singh, and wished Mrs Gandhi's soul a peaceful rest.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Sends Condolences on Gandhi's Death

MB311853 Harare Domestic Service in English
1745 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has sent a message of condolence to Mr Rajiv Gandhi on the assassination of his mother, Mrs Indira Gandhi. Part of the message reads: On behalf of the Government and people of Zimbabwe, I wish to express our profound shock and [word indistinct] at the cruel and sudden death of your mother and Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi. Please convey my heartfelt condolences to your family and the people of India. My wife, Sally, joins me in [words indistinct]. We shall always remember Mrs Gandhi as a selfless and dedicated person [words indistinct] and for her principled commitment to the international community.